

Descendants of Johannes Rupp

FAMILY
HISTORY
RUPP
C17

Ralph E. Seiler

Decendant of 1A4 family
page 169.

ECKHART PUBLIC LIBRARY



8401 9100 215 669 5

Descendants of Johannes Rupp

This book outlines the descendants of Johannes Rupp of Orschweier, Germany. Johannes had four sons, John, Christian, Jacob and Peter and two daughters, Barbara (Mrs. Joseph Roth) and Magdalena (Mrs. John King). All of them excepting Barbara migrated to northwestern Ohio starting in 1834. The third generation had 43 grandchildren and 33 have descendants living today. Many of these grandchildren were born in Alsace or Baden-Baden and all but two came to Ohio.

This 200 page book traces this family in detail thru the first four and into the fifth generation. It does not list them down to the present day. That would take many volumes. I have worked on these charts since 1919 and they are broken down into over 50 charts, one for each grandchild of Johannes, and some of the older branches start with great grandchildren. For example, the eldest grandson of Johannes was John Rupp (1812-1877), married to Magdalena Lauber (1824-1874). They were my great grandparents and I have over 4000 names on this I-A chart alone. Tabulating the statistical information on this one branch would fill a large volume in itself.

Do not buy this book if you are looking for your name in it. But if you are trying to trace your family history and it involves the Mennonite families who settled in Fulton and Lucas counties in Ohio, this book will be of real help to you. You may be surprised to learn that you are descended from Johannes Rupp thru two or three lines, for there was a considerable amount of intermarriage with cousins in these Mennonite families of German Twp.

This is not just a record of Rupp names, for you will note that the second generation brings in the family names of ROTH, KING, STUCKEY AND GOLDSMITH. The 3rd generation comprising the grandchildren of Johannes, introduces more well known German names to the family tree, that originated in Alsace, Baden and Switzerland. This generation adds such names to family tree as AESCHILIMAN, BRENNEMAN, BURKHOLDER, CRIPLINGER, FRY, FREYENBERGER, GASSMAN, GRIESER, GERIG, KRAUSE, KAUFMAN, KIMBERLIN (the first English name), KUEBLER, LAUBER, LANTZ, MUSSER, SAUDER, SCHROCK, SIEGEL, SHORT, STEINMAN, and WYSE.

The 4th generation brings in more family tree, bringing in names that are not of German origin. It even shows a number of lines marrying back into another Johannes RUPP line. Among the new family names added (many of these were added about the close of the 19th century or early in the 20th) were the following: AMSTUTZ, BECK, BERNATH, BUCHER, BEAVERSON, BUCHWALTER, COLLIE, EGLEY, ENGLISH, EICHER, FLORY, FELS, GEISINGER, HESS, HOFFMAN, HOLLY, HEER, KLOPFENSTEIN, KRIEGER, KOENIGSECKER, KULP, LANTZ, LEHMAN, LAYMAN, MILLER, MYERS, McQUILLAN, NOFSINGER, PATTERSON, RASHLEY, RUSSELL, SCHROEDER, SMUCKER, STUTZMAN, STEINER, STAMM, TAYLOR, UTZ, VONIER, WEBER, YAGGY, YODER, ZIMMERMAN and ZOOK.

We are now well into 7th and eighth generation and starting into the ninth. The descendants are now scattered to all parts of the U.S. with a variety of names, occupation, and religious and political beliefs. We are no longer represented by one religious belief (Mennonite) and one occupation (farming).

This book may be of real help to you in learning more about your ancestors. It is in off-set printing. My hope is that copies of this will reach into all of the major branches of the families descended from Johannes. I am printing 400 copies, and plan to give at least 40 of these to libraries and genealogical research centers. I am distributing these at minimum cost of my typing and printing bill this past year. The paper backs will be \$4.75 each and the hard-backs will be \$7.00 each.

I hope to make many of these available in Archbold, Ohio area so as to cut down in shipping costs. Notices will be in Archbold Buckeye as to places of distribution. 1) I hope you will enjoy this book; 2) I hope you will add to it and go on and write up your own branch; 3) I hope you will forgive me for taking 57 years to write this first draft, for I started on this at the first Rupp reunion in 1919.

Allen E. Rupp
206 Maple Shade Dr.
Marietta, Ohio 45750

CONTENTS

	Page
Preface	3
Part I	5
Chapter I - Motivations and Frustrations	5
Chapter II - What Rupp's Are Included or Excluded	15
Chapter III - The Name of RUPP	23
Chapter IV - The Spelling and Pronunciation of the Family Name of Rupp	28
Part II - The Second and Third Generations of Johannes Rupp the Elder	31
Chapter V - The I Branch of John Rupp	31
Chapter VI - The II Branch of Barbara Rupp and Joseph Roth	38
Chapter VII - The III Branch in Johannes Rupp Tree Christian Rupp and Christina Stuckey	41
Chapter VIII - The IV Branch on Johannes Rupp Line Jacob Rupp and Magdalena King	45
Chapter IX - The V Branch of Magdalena Rupp and John King	47
Chapter X - The VI Branch of Peter Rupp and Barbara Goldsmith	49
Part III - Further Details on Third, Fourth and Fifth Generations	52
Chapter XI - Some Observations I Have Made Concerning the Rupp Family Records in 1975	52
Chapter XII - Further Details on the John Rupp I Line	63
Chapter XIII - Further Details on Joseph Roth - Barbara Rupp - Identified as Main Line Number II	107
Chapter XIV - The Christian Rupp - Christina Stuckey Family or Further Details on the III Line	116
Chapter XV - Jacob Rupp - Magdalena King Branch Further Details on the IV Line	126
Chapter XVI - The Magdalena Rupp - John King Line Further Details on the V Line	134
Chapter XVII - The Peter Rupp - Barbara Goldsmith Line with Further Details on the VI Line	144

Part IV

Page
158

Chapter XVIII - Suggestions for Later Family Historians	158
Chapter XIX - Major Family Names Represented on Johannes Rupp Line	163
Chapter XX - Religions Represented in the Early History of the Johannes Rupp Family	165
Chapter XXI - Where Will You Find Rups Today?	171
Chapter XXII - German Township and Archbold, Ohio	175
Chapter XXIII - Second Thoughts	181

APPENDIX

Chart #1 - Johannes Rupp	188
Chart #2 - The Number I Branch of John Rupp	189
Chart #3 - The II Branch of Joseph Roth and Barbara Rupp	191
Chart #4 - The III Branch of Christian Rupp and Christina Stuckey	192
Chart #5 - The IV Branch of Jacob Rupp and Magdalena King	193
Chart #6 - The V Branch of John King and Magdalena Rupp	194
Chart #7 - The VI Branch of Peter Rupp and Barbara Goldsmith	195
Picture - Eight Generations of Rups	196
Picture - The I-A-2 Line	198
Picture - The IV-D and I-B-3 line	199

PREFACE

Writing a family history has its rewards when you enjoy the task. It enables the writer to express his own ideas, even though they may exhibit a personal bias. No two people conducting an interview will have the same point of view even if they ask the same questions. If some of my prejudices irritate you, you have the privilege of writing your own history.

In the first chapter I attempted to explain the motivating factors that caused me to spend thousands of hours over a fifty-six year period in gathering and sorting information. I attempted to point out the many limitations of the project, and the frustrations that developed.

In the second chapter I outlined the extent of the Johannes Rupp story. There may be other Rupps not on this Johannes Rupp line, that will want to find clues as to their own family. I can only make a suggestion here and there that may in some small way give the amateur genealogist an idea that will be helpful.

In Chapter V I even exhibited a skeleton I found in the closet. There are a few in every family tree. It would not be fair to make people think that the Rupps were a collection of saints. However, most of them were the kind of people you would like to have for your next-door neighbors.

In the latter part of this book, I am obviously hoping to stimulate some of the younger members of the family to start now on writing their own version of history. The Mennonites in particular are deserving of more study by our historians.

Some of you will be disappointed because I have virtually ignored the history of the family for the last half century. But it is impossible to list all of the names and dates that I have on my records. This data would fill a score or more of books this size. I leave this for the later historians. I am concentrating on the first five generations because this material has been lost. I feel that the information enclosed should be made available to present day researchers, who might otherwise have difficulty in straightening out the endogamous marriages in long established Mennonite communities.

Our daughter Barbara proofread this and found many grammatical errors. But I cannot take the time and effort to retype the entire manuscript. Orrin Taylor made good suggestions, and I will try to include some of them in the footnotes where there is space.

But I had to get this to the press. Why not write the story of your own branch? It should be a challenge to you. We have good reason for being proud of the descendants of Johannes Rupp.

Allen E. Rupp

June 6, 1976

206 Maple Shade Drive

Marietta, Ohio 45750

PART I

CHAPTER I

Motivations and Frustrations

This story started many years ago. For me the impetus for telling the story had its origin in the summer of 1919.

Our family lived in West Unity, Ohio, where I had just finished high school and was preparing to enter Ohio Wesleyan University. My father, Jesse Rupp, organized the first reunion of the Rupps who settled in northwestern Ohio, starting in 1834. Father was a logical choice to attempt such a project. At that time the majority of the Rupps in northwestern Ohio were members of the Amish-Mennonite or Defenceless-Mennonite Church. My parents were Methodists and, although that denomination was predominant in West Unity, it was a distinct minority at the Rupp reunion. However, my father had never been alienated from the Mennonite church. All of his ten brothers and sisters were Mennonites in 1919 and he had a deep respect for their religious beliefs. He had kept in touch with even his distant cousins.

A small committee met in our home in West Unity to plan this reunion. Among early committee members were Lou Rupp of Pettisville and John A. Rupp of Elmira. I remember that one committee member wanted to limit attendance to just those who bore the name of Rupp - but "women's lib" was not to be denied. My father vigorously opposed this idea. His sister Marianne had married Amos Neuhauser and she was one of the many who were looking forward to this reunion. I didn't want to see my Neuhauser cousins eliminated from the event.

The committee agreed to the inclusion of females who had changed their name, and this led to the decision to invite all who were the descendants of the six Rupp brothers and sisters who came to Fulton County and Lucas County, Ohio, in the early part of the 19th century. A rough sketch of a family tree was drawn with probably not over 150 names on it. That committee would have been speechless if I could have shown them the charts I possess in 1975 showing over 8500 descendants and spouses with notes indicating that I have less than one-half of the total names that belong on that tree. But I will get back to the details of the charts later in this story.

The first reunion was held at the Fulton County fairgrounds north of Wauseon, Ohio. A panoramic photo was taken of the group in 1921 numbering about 691. It was possible for an active youngster to get into the picture at both ends of the stands by sprinting back of the group as the camera slowly moved in an arc that covered the entire group. In a few years this reunion was described by the Toledo Blade as "the largest family reunion in northwest Ohio, if not all Ohio". One year they estimated over 900 in attendance.

From the very first, all of the major branches in Fulton County were represented, but I do not recall if any representatives from the Toledo and Whitehouse area¹ or the Orrville, Ohio, area attended. My father contacted the Lucas County group many times, but most of their younger members had left the Mennonite church and had never met their distant cousins in Fulton County. I

¹An error. Mr. and Mrs. James Axley of Toledo attended.

learned later that our particular branch, the I-A branch of John Rupp and Magdalene Lauber, was more closely related to the Lucas County group than to many of the Fulton County branches.

It was during the 1920's when I decided to make complete charts of all of the branches of the Rupps in northern Ohio. At the time I envisioned the idea of attempting to trace the relationship of all of the Rupp families in all parts of the United States. I soon learned that such a program was virtually impossible. The branches were spreading out in Europe over three centuries ago, and Rupps have been migrating to the United States for over the last two hundred years.

Lieutenant Commander Wendell Roop of "The Anchorage" at Sewell, New Jersey, attempted to trace many of the Rupp families after he retired from the Navy. He visited me at Cambridge and Fremont, Ohio, and although he spent all of his time in travel and research, he made but a dent in the task he had outlined. Some of his notes are now in possession of Bluffton College. He also has a summary of his findings in the D.A.R. library in Washington, D.C. Although he made a good contribution to his goal, he admitted to me on his last trip to Ohio that there were far too many gaps in the story. However, he did agree that a large percentage of the first Rupps who came to Pennsylvanis in the 18th century, as well as those who came to Ohio in the 19th century, were Mennonites. By a strange coincidence, both Wendell Rupp and I belonged to churches that our early forebears would have considered as the ultimate in heresy.

My father suggested that I contact the oldest members of the family first. That was a wise suggestion. But I made a tragic mistake in that I did not take enough notes. I soon discovered that there were scores of John Rupps, Jacob Rupps and Mary Rupps. Then I decided to get the date and place of birth, of marriage, and of death. I only wish I had obtained data on occupation, religion, cause of death and other information. I am now trying to obtain.

In 1923 I went to Marietta, Ohio, as a teacher, and my first major purchase was a Dodge roadster. Having a car and extra cash in my pockets, I started in earnest on my hobby. In the next decade I had tramped over every Mennonite cemetery in northern Ohio. I viewed thousands of tombstones. It is a miracle that I do not see them in my dreams. But this was essential in determining certain family relationships. I could not understand why one Jacob Rupp had three sons, all named Jacob. It was all obvious when I visited the Mennonite cemetery where this particular Jacob Rupp was buried. I found the first son named Jacob had died a few days after birth; the second son named Jacob had lived only a few months. But the father was persistent in wanting a son with his name, and so he named a third son Jacob.

Fifty years ago when I first worked on these records, we did not have indexed census records, indexed ship lists, or large genealogical libraries rich in source materials that facilitate the recording of a family history. When I started in 1919, I did not intend to wait 55 years to write this story. But each year has

added new information. I have procrastinated, but I do not regret that delay in view of the added perspective gained with the new knowledge gathered in recent years, particularly in Europe. I will admit that the task has overwhelmed me, for I am now of the opinion that if I am to record just the vital statistics such as date and place of birth, date and place of marriage, date and place of divorce (fortunately these are rare in Mennonite families) and date and place of death, I will have at least one vital statistic to record every day of my life. The descendants are now scattered all across the United States, and I estimated that in 1970 alone, there should have been over 500 vital statistics added to the charts.

Consequently, I have decided to record the main outline of the Johannes Rupp story as best I can at this time. There will be many branches that have not had an entry made in their line in four or five decades. Other historians can fill in these gaps. They can continue recording their own immediate family as they see fit.

Keeping "the record" on the Rupp family has become a habit. For fifty years my side trips have been arranged so as to gather further information. There were long periods when I laid the Rupp files to one side while I researched the records for my mother's ancestors or my wife's family. In recent years I drew ancestral charts for my daughters-in-law. But the Rupp file with its volumes of notes and hundreds of letters has been the number one project for my spare time. In 1960 Orland Grieser,

in his book "Out of the Wilderness", referred to me as "the Rupp family historian". I now know that the charts I have drawn of the various branches are unusual, for other genealogists have seen them and been amazed at the extent of these records.

I may have wasted thousands of hours, but I have enjoyed visiting with my most distant cousins. Almost without exception they are interested in their long-gone ancestors who cleared new land in northwestern Ohio. Many have cooperated in furnishing names, dates and places for the members of their family. In a number of cases I have enjoyed telling these younger people of my earlier visits to the homes of their parents or their grandparents three and four decades ago.

The story of the Rupps who migrated from Europe (Germany, Alsace, France, Switzerland, and Palatinate areas) is a vital part of our European background - the struggle of a minority group (Mennonites and related branches of the Anabaptist movement) against oppression by the state and by the established church of that time and area. Thus the information gained from this research serves to embellish the historical background of the history I have read over the years.

The story of this Amish-Mennonite group and their struggle for survival in Ohio is as thrilling as any Horatio Alger book. These people were oppressed peasants in Europe, and for many generations later in the United States they were virtually shunned by their English-speaking neighbors. The early county histories

of counties in Ohio, Indiana, and elsewhere scarcely mention these Mennonite settlements. Part of this was the fault of these Mennonite people because they frowned on pictures and did not believe in paying \$10 or \$20 down to a traveling historian who was writing a county history. They abhorred that type of thing as a form of vanity that was contrary to their religion. At that time a traveling historian looked upon these "plain folk" as a group that had no part in the political, intellectual, cultural, and particularly the business life of his area. Those historians who ignored these "plain people" in 1880 and 1890 would never have dreamed that in all parts of the United States these Mennonite farmers now own some of the finest farm land in America, and their banks and small industries are some of the most prosperous in our land. But more of that later.

I have another reason for telling this story, and it has to do with genetics. I have discovered that there has been an enormous amount of intermarriage with second, third, and fourth cousins. Those who have remained in one community for 130 years, and particularly those who have continued to marry within a small religious group or closely related group such as Amish Mennonite or "old" Mennonite and Evangelical Mennonite, tend to marry "cousins". My charts show only their relationship through the Johannes Rupp line, but I know that they have also intermarried with cousins in the Roth, Short or Schad, Lehman, Nofsinger, Brenneman, Yoder and other well-known Mennonite families. I have always hoped that some foundation could utilize these charts in

a genetic study. Years ago W. O. Taylor of Archbold told me that this intermarriage would cause the family to "die out". He believed that after seven generations had married distant cousins, that the children would no longer be fertile and would not reproduce. Well, I have now traced Rupp lines for ten generations and some of them are still marrying distant cousins, and they are just as prolific as ever. In fact, those who have remained on rural farms and married distant cousins who were members of their church, have bigger families than those who left the church, moved to the city and married someone with a different ethnic background. No, I am not checking on the fertility of the Rups, but I would like to know more about their susceptibility to certain diseases, the probability of length of life and so on. When I first discovered that the people I had on one branch were appearing again on another branch, I had a brilliant idea for a name for my book charting the descendants of Johannes Rupp. If I could get most of the names on the six major branches of the Johannes Rupp tree, I might find that they total 22,000 or more, but on examination I would find that due to intermarriage with cousins, some people are on the Johannes Rupp tree in two or three different places. Thus 22,000 names on the chart might turn out to be but 16,000 different people. Consequently, my title might read "21,374 equals 15,959". I will never know, but it is an idea.

In writing this Johannes Rupp history, I believe I can help other Rups in other parts of the United States to get some clues that will help them in tracing their ancestors. These

records will also be of enormous help in charting many branches of related families, such as Roth, King, Short, Nofsinger, Lauber, Stutzman, Brenneman, Grieser, Aeschliman, Beck, Gerig, Lantz, Freyenberger, Burkholder, Wyse, Miller, Klopfenstein, Sauder, and many others. The descendants of the six Rupp children are now so numerous that a separate book on each of the six children is justified since the number of people involved is so large.

To illustrate this number, I can point out that the largest of the six branches of the Johannes Rupp tree is that for John I, the eldest son. It is so large that I soon broke up the John I charts into nine subdivisions, A through J, for each of the children of John Rupp and Magdalena Lauber that had descendants. But this I-A branch of the eldest grandson of Johannes will probably total approximately 3900 names. So I broke the I-A charts up again, and drew up separate charts for each of the children of John and Magdalena that had descendants. In each generation you will normally lose half of the people with the Rupp name since roughly half of the children should be female. In the Johannes Rupp case, the percentage of males in the first two generations has led to a slightly higher occurrence of the Rupp name than might be expected. By the fifth generation only one in sixteen would carry the Rupp name. By the tenth generation it would be one in 512. That is why many of the smaller branches will want their own story of their immediate cousins. Consequently, their branch could be headed by the names of a couple, neither of whom bear the Rupp name, and yet either or both might be a descendant of Johannes

Rupp. Nevertheless, these records should assist the younger generation in learning more of their hereditary background.

Another reason for writing this story is a matter of ego - or simple vanity - something a good Anabaptist should avoid. But I am genuinely proud of these many cousins. We haven't produced a president of the United States, but give us time. My father was always proud of his heritage. He had reason to believe in them for he remembered their economic struggle in the latter part of the 19th century. They have become the leaders in their communities. They are hard workers and as fine a group of citizens as can be found anywhere. W. O. Taylor once boasted at a family reunion that he had never known a Rupp "who had been in jail, or one who had not paid his debts." He added, "Their word was their bond." Unfortunately, he added, "Thank God, I have never known one who was a lawyer or politician." In that he was wrong, for there are at least two score lawyers in the Rupp branches I have charted, plus a few budding politicians.

But I must admit that my father, Jesse Rupp, gave me the impetus to start this story in 1919, and it has been the encouragement of many cousins that has kept me at the task. The size of the Johannes Rupp tree has encouraged me to add more and more names to the record. I would like it to be in time the largest family record in America. But the size of the family tree has also discouraged me many times for I simply cannot keep up with it. It will take the help of a number of people to bring one major branch up to date. I cannot afford to publish a book of the size needed for the entire record.

From the information I have collected, later historians can expand on many of the branches. Some years ago Henry G. Rupp of Bryan, Ohio, collected data on the descendants of Peter Rupp, the VI branch, the youngest of the six children who settled in Ohio. He found it impossible to keep up all of the Peter Rupp records. Today Tom Yoder is busy tracing some of the Rupp as well as the Roth lines. Someone may take one of the great-grandchildren of Johannes and outline descendants in that branch. Carol Nofziger of Archbold, Ohio, compiled a record of descendants of Gottlieb Beck, that included the chart on their third child, Catherine Beck who married Henry Rupp. She has over 600 names on this Henry Rupp chart. This Henry Rupp is a great-grandson of Johannes Rupp of Orschweier. I haven't counted them, but a rough guess would indicate that Johannes had at least 150 great-grandchildren. However, Henry Rupp (1853-1937) was one of the more prolific members of the family. Many historians could find plenty to do on individual aspects of these records.

CHAPTER II

What Rupps Are Included or Excluded

This story starts with Johannes Rupp of Orschweier, Germany, and it deals with his six children who emigrated to northern Ohio starting in 1834. The six children were Johannes (John) I, Barbara II, who married Joseph Roth, Christian III, Jacob IV, Magdalena V, who married John King, and Peter VI. All came to

northwestern Ohio except Barbara and Joseph Roth. They died young and are buried in Alsace, but four of their sons came to Ohio with their Rupp cousins.

Unfortunately, in my early charts I did not have them in chronological order. I had listed John as I, the eldest child, and Barbara as II, the second child, which is probably correct. But in all of my first charts I had Jacob listed as III and Christian as IV. This was in error, and I will find it difficult to unscramble this as I have sent these charts to many people throughout the country. My intermarriage charts refer to the marriage I-B-1 (Elizabeth Fuyenberger to Jacob Rupp III-A, her first cousin once-removed). But Jacob Rupp should have been IV-A, and as a result I am now changing all of my charts so that descendants of Christian Rupp (b. circa 1790) will be in III branch, and the descendants of Jacob (b. circa 1801 - d. 1875) will be the IV branch.

I also made one other mistake. I told Wendell Roop and others twenty-five years ago that the father of the six children who came to Ohio was either Jacob or John. I now know that the father was Johannes of Orschweier, but Wendell Roop's recollections refer to my work as the Jacob Rupp branch. This is an error.

Johannes Rupp, the elder, was born about 1755-1759. He probably married about 1778-1779. His first wife was Magdalena Wagler. She was the mother of Barbara II, born in 1783 and probably the mother of John I born about 1781. She may have been the mother of Christian born about 1790, but I do not believe that she was the mother of Jacob, Magdalena, and Peter, born about 1801, 1803,

and 6/11/1805 respectively. We know that Peter was the youngest child in the family born June 11, 1805.

The marriage record of Barbara Rupp to Joseph Roth in 1803 lists Johannes Rupp of Orschweier and Margaret Wagler as her parents.

It is my belief that Margaret Wagler was the first wife of Johannes Rupp, and that a second wife bore the last three children, Jacob, Magdalena and Peter. Johannes may have fathered other children who died in infancy. It is probable that Christian belongs with the first set of children, John and Barbara, since he is believed to have been born about 1890.

It is now understandable to me why some of John I's children were confused with John I's younger brothers and sisters. Peter, who heads the VI line, is 25 years younger than John I.

For those of you checking on family records in Mennonite families, I will caution you again and again to carefully check your dates. Remember that every family used the same Biblical names of John, Jacob, Joseph, Christian, Mary, Barbara, etc. over and over again. A few months ago I was checking for the obituary of my grandmother, Magdalena Rupp. I found three obituaries of three different Magdalena Rupp occurring in a relatively short period of time.

Years ago I heard my father talk of the seven Rupp brothers who migrated to Ohio starting in 1834. He was referring to the seven sons in the John Rupp I branch. John I was the eldest son of the six children of Johannes of Orschweier. Some years ago, some old-timers said "there was a Michael Rupp who came here and

left years ago". But this Michael Rupp was finally located. He was born in 1815 in the Baden-Baden district of Germany, probably Orschweier. He married Mary Caseman (b. 2/3/1834 - d. 1924) and moved to Hancock County, Ohio, in the latter part of the 19th century. I talked to Michael's daughter, Mrs. Charles Reed, in 1927 and she told me that her father left the family circle many years ago, but that he was the son of John I and was not his brother, thus making this Michael (b. 1875) head of the I-C branch.

Just recently I have learned through a correspondent in Germany that there was a Michael Rupp from Orschweier, Germany. He probably was a brother of the six children of Johannes who settled in northern Ohio. Here I quote from the letter from Dr. Zier, the director of the State Archives.

"In the year 1820, Franz Karl Weihl of Welshingen (County Konstanz) rented his farm to the 30-year old Mennonite, Michael Rupp, born in Orschweier, who was married to Elizabeth Klopstein, 30 years old, born in Elsass (France). Since this Michael Rupp was born in 1790, he could be the one you are looking for. He was a member of an 'Inland' (from Baden) Anabaptist group, along with his wife and children, Elizabeth, 9 years old, born in Bolz-Lahr (this town cannot be found), Christian, 3 years old, born in Randerr (County Konstanz) and Johann, 6 months old, born in Orschweier (County Lahr) and thus were citizens of Baden. The ages refer to the year 1820. Michael Rupp and his family, according to his own statement, "only had to register the domestic law with the administration of the Anabaptists". As far as we

can find in the records of the time from 1810-1869 which are kept here, there is no entry for this family. That can be explained because, according to a ministerial decree of April 15, 1809, the Anabaptists could decide themselves if they wanted their personal affairs recorded in the church books of the Protestant and the Catholic communities."

Then in the letter from Dr. Zier, comes a note that shows close connection between the Rupp and King families:

"Also living in 1820 in Emmingen near Egg (County Donaueschingen) was the Mennonite Jacob König, born in Himburg, 47 years old, with his wife Anna, born Röttinger, 35 years old, and the children, Jakobina, Magdalena, Anna, Daniel, Jakob and Elizabeth. Of these children, only the youngest child, Elizabeth, is registered in the birth register of 1819 of the Catholic community Emmingen near Egg. With this family lived a servant, Christian Rupp, born in Orschweier, 29 years old."

(AER notes - Jacob Rupp IV married Magdalena King. This could be the Magdalena listed in the letter above. Then Magdalena Rupp (V branch) born about 1803, married John King (born in 1799). This John King probably was an elder son in the family listed above and was there in 1820 at the age of 21, but on his own.)

The Christian Rupp listed as a servant was probably a farm laborer helping a close Mennonite friend. This was common among early Mennonite families. I believe that this Christian Rupp who was living in the König (King) home in 1820 was none other than the Christian Rupp who heads the III branch. Thus it is obvious that the Kings and Rupps were neighbors and close

friends, for John King married Magdalena Rupp, and John notes Magdalena King married Jacob Rupp. They may have been the only Mennonite families in that area of Baden, for there is no record of any Mennonite church or cemetery in that vicinity. There were many Mennonite families just across the Rhine River from Orschweier in the province of Alsace in the Belfort, Colmar and Mulhouse areas.

Then comes a statement from Dr. Zier that I cannot reconcile. It is a one-line paragraph as follows: "May 26, 1811, was born a Johannes Rupp, as a son of Johannes Rupp and Anna Schöpflin." Who is this Johannes Rupp? This is the first mention of the name Schöpflin. My great-grandfather, Johannes (or John) Rupp, has listed his date of birth as January 10, 1812. Is there a mistake in these dates, as we have no other John Rupp in this 1811-12 period?

Dr. Ziel found one other item that intrigues me. It is as follows: "In March 1847 a Johann Rupp with his wife and 3 children from Welschne (County Constanze) emigrated to America."

Who is that Johann? It is a very common name. It could have been a son of the illegitimate daughter born to John I and Catharina Wursslin on January 14, 1803 - or it could have been a cousin from another Rupp family.

Dr. Zier goes on to point out that there was no mention of the Christian or Johann Rupp family in their vital statistics. Those early Amish-Mennonites did not want to bother their neighbors or be bothered by them, but they sure made it tough for a descendant to trace their activities almost two centuries after the event.

I have come to believe that Johannes Rupp had two wives. The first, Magdalena (or Margaretha) Wagler was the mother of John I, born circa 1781, Barbara, born circa 1783, and possibly Christian, born circa 1791. She may have borne a Michael, circa 1790, but we have lost track of him. She may and probably did bear other children who died in infancy.

I do not think she was the mother of Jacob, born circa 1801, Magdalena, born circa 1803, and Peter, born in 1805. I am inclined to believe that Johannes remarried about 1799 or 1800 and started a second set of children. Take a look at the record of the sons of John Rupp and Magdalena Lauber I-A. One of them was my grandfather, Daniel Rupp. He and his seven brothers, Christian, John, Henry, Samuel, David, Eli and Seth, had a total of 16 wives. There was not a single divorce or separation. Six of them died before reaching the age of 30, and I believe that all six died because of complications that arose in giving birth to a child. In my view, it was not God's will that they died young. It was the simple fact that children were born under primitive conditions without adequate medical knowledge. If we are erecting any monuments, we should erect them to these noble women who gave their lives in the growth of the family. Some of them were just beginning to enjoy the pleasure of being with very young children under six years of age, when they were taken while giving birth to another child. I was told many years ago by an elderly lady that there were very few "old maids" in Mennonite or Amish homes. That was true a century ago because of the high death rate among young wives. The husband frequently

married a younger sister or a cousin of the wife he lost. Marriage was a noble institution, and the manner in which it operated in 1850 left small room for bachelors or old maids in Mennonite communities.

In this chapter I have attempted to forewarn you of some of your problems when you try to research data on your ancestors in Europe or in newly opened territory in America. It is difficult for us to comprehend how much the Mennonites mistrusted the civil authorities in Europe. Johannes Rupp and his family were Amish-Mennonite, a persecuted sect. They opposed infant baptism, military service, and all civil service. Consequently, they did not want to report marriages and births. They simply wanted to be left alone.

We will now go on with our story of Johannes Rupp of Orschweier, Germany. He was probably born between 1755 and 1759 in Switzerland, near Basel, or in Baden. He married Magdalena Wagler about 1778. In one record her first name is Margaretha.

They had at least three children. The first was John, born about 1781, who heads our I branch. The second was Barbara, born 1783, who heads our II branch. In Barbara's case we have found her marriage record to Joseph Roth on May 27, 1803, at Chatanooga, Bas-Rhin. Barbara and Joseph never got to America, but four of their sons came to Fulton County with their Rupp cousins when they were orphaned.

The third child was Christian, born circa 1791. He heads III branch. There may have been a Michael, born about 1790, as well as other children, some of whom may have died in infancy.

Then came three children of Johannes born a decade later, and as I have explained, they are probably a second set of children by Johannes and an unknown second wife.

The first of these is Jacob, born circa 1801, who heads IV branch (as corrected).

Then came Magdalena who heads the V branch with her husband, John King (or Koenig).

And last is Peter, born June 11, 1805, who heads the VI branch.

CHAPTER III

The Name of RUPP

I do not know where or when the Rupp family name got its start. But records of Rupps can be found going back over four centuries ago in the area near Basel, Switzerland. Our son David found records of Rupps in the town of Grafenhausen at the home of Albert Kobelt. He had records of Rupp families going back to the early 1600s. Many came from Wollach near Basel.

In 1969 Charles Mathiot and Roger Boigeol published a well researched book called "Recherches Historiques sur les Anabaptistes". Through the kind assistance of Dr. Delbert Gratz of Bluffton College, in Ohio, I was able to visit Roger Boigeol and his wife in their home near Belfort, France. My wife and I were charmed by their courtesy. Boigeol, a semi-retired manufacturer, has devoted his spare time to research of the migration of Anabaptist families throughout Europe. Since most of these Anabaptists

were later classified as Mennonites, his book records the Swiss origin of many of those families.

Boigeol says that the Rupps who came into Alsace originated in the area of Sigriswil in the Canton of Berne, Switzerland. He claims that Hettiswil in Canton Berne is the origin of the Schad (now Short) family. He found records for the Beck family at Etoges in Alsace as early as 1723. The Eichers who came to the Principality of Montbéliard in Alsace, originally lived in Schwartzenegg at Diessbach in Canton Berne.

The Frey family came from Rothenbach["] in Canton Berne. The Gerig family arrived at Audincourt, Alsace, in 1766 and had been at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines in Alsace, prior to that. The Yoder and Hostettler families came over the same route. The Neuhauser family came to Montbéliard in 1709 from Thun, Canton Berne, Switzerland. The Roth families were found originally in Diessbach and Steffisburg, Canton Berne, but spent some time at Ste. Marie-aux-Mines in Alsace.

Dr. Delbert Gratz, as Secretary of the Mennonite Historical Society, is an authority on these migrations. He has made many pilgrimages back to this area of Europe with students interested in tracing the history of the Mennonites in Europe. Anyone who wants to check further on the European background of any Mennonite family should first consult the very able historians who serve on the faculties of Bluffton College and Goshen College.

All of the early records I have found list Rupps in Switzerland, Alsace, France, Germany, Austria, Holland and the Palatinate countries. Now that does not mean that they were widely scattered. It is obvious to me that the Rupp name was heavily

concentrated in the upper Rhine valley. Take a look at such towns as Orschweier, Baden-Baden, Mahlberg, Kippenheim, Grafenhausen - all in Germany - they are only a few miles apart. But just across the river about 30 miles away is Colmar, France, where John Rupp I got his passport to come to America. The next small city below Colmar is Mulhouse, once in Alsace, but now a part of France. This city was mentioned by some of our ancestors. But Mulhouse is just a short distance north of Basel, Switzerland, where a number of Rupps lived. A few miles to the east is Schaffhausen, Switzerland, and I believe it is from that town that some of our ancestors boarded boats and headed down the Rhine to Rotterdam and there shipped out from that port to America. At least one family, the Christian Rupp family, shipped out of Le Havre, but I am inclined to believe that the majority took the trip up the Rhine to Rotterdam.

The early Rupps who joined the Anabaptist movement took refuge in the Jura Mountain district in Switzerland. They were hard-working people, and their services were very much desired by the wealthy landowners and noblemen who lived in the Palatinate area in the upper Rhine valley. However, those who had joined the Anabaptist movement and become followers of Conrad Grebel, Menno Simons, Jacob Amann, and other leaders, were persecuted by the civil authorities.

The Mennonites and Swiss Brethren and later the Amish-Mennonites, being opposed to infant baptism, were in direct conflict with the Catholic church - and later with the Lutheran and other Protestant churches that were in power in Germany and

Switzerland. They were also opposed to military service, and so they were in conflict with civil authorities. The civil authorities worked hand in hand with the religion favored by the state, to harass and even persecute these non-believers. I learned many years ago in visiting Amish and Mennonite homes that next to their family Bible, their most treasured book was the "Book of Martyrs". This book recounts the stories of the Mennonites who were drowned, burned at the stake, or shipped out as galley slaves to Italy. Much of this severe persecution occurred over three centuries ago.

There were certain areas where these Anabaptist groups (I use the general term of Anabaptist to include Swiss Brethren, Mennonites, Amish and other related groups that were off-shoots of the original Anabaptist movement in Europe) found a limited amount of protection from certain civil servants and some landowners. Some strangers became converts to their cause when they observed how steadfast these people were to their religious beliefs.

I have the feeling that many wealthy landowners and noblemen may have evaded the civil laws and may have given these people a limited amount of protection on their farm lands because they needed their services to operate their farms and properties. The Mennonites not only had a love for tilling the soil, but they had a good background in handling all kinds of livestock. The women were excellent as weavers and in such household tasks as making cheese and butter.

Dr. Jean Seguy of the Sorbonne faculty in Paris is a Roman Catholic, but he is probably the leading authority in Europe on

the Anabaptist movement. I visited him in his home in Paris in 1970, and I was impressed with his sincere admiration for these people. He told me that the few Mennonites who remained in Europe were outstanding farmers and operated the finest farms in Europe. I told Dr. Seguy that their cousins who migrated to the United States, also controlled some of the finest farm land in America. I have visited these rural areas in Mennonite and Amish-Mennonite communities in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Kansas, and even in Ontario, and invariably I am amazed at the quality of their farms.

As a result these families moved from time to time, avoiding conflict whenever possible. Consequently, they made no civil records of births and marriages when it could be avoided. Their whole area of movement is actually a very small territory, involving northern Switzerland, southeastern France (Alsace), southwestern Germany (Baden). The major towns and provinces I have listed are often within walking distance of each other. Many moved into the Palatinate area under the control of Count Palatine. This area was to the north and east of Alsace. Of course, the trip to Holland meant a boat trip down the Rhine.

This is what happened when Holland offered protection to religious refugees from the upper Rhine valley. Some of the first Rapps to leave the Palatinate were those who migrated to Holland two or three centuries ago. The Rupp name can be found in Holland, although in all probability those found in Holland are no longer members of the Mennonite church.

I do not want to give the impression that all of the Rapps

joined the Anabaptist movement, although our particular ancestors who came to northwestern Ohio in the forefront of the 19th century were all members of the Amish-Mennonite church.

However, about thirty years ago, I noted that one of the prominent Catholic bishops of France was named Rupp. Hans Rupp, the pianist who for many years was the accompanist for the famous negro contralto Marian Anderson, was a native of Switzerland. He knew of no connection of his family to the Mennonite religion.

CHAPTER IV

The Spelling and Pronunciation of the Family Name of Rupp

Over the years I have purchased material from firms advertising that they have a history of the Rupp name. These have been almost worthless to me. One firm said that the Rupp name may have been spelled as Rupff, Rupf, Ruppas, Rupffes, Rupffe, Ruffes, Ruppes, and so on. I do not believe that all of these spellings are deviations from the original name of Rupp. I am aware that a clerk on board a ship, or an early court recorder, may have changed the spelling of the names of some of our ancestors. If that is true, you may be skeptical of a name where only one letter is changed. This suggests that such names as Rub, Ruf, Rubb, Ruff, Repp, Rapp, Ropp, Rewp, and so on, may belong to the Rupp family. If so, why did not Isaac Daniel Rupp, the early historian in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, mention this fact?

I am of the strong opinion that the only Ruppas who changed the spelling were those who changed it because they wanted to

spell it so that there would be no question as to how you would pronounce the name.

For many years there ~~has~~ been an issue as to how the name Rupp should be pronounced. When I was a boy in northwestern Ohio, we pronounced Rupp to rhyme with Soup. When I went to Cambridge, Ohio, in 1947 as Superintendent of Schools, the well-known Marietta columnist, "Dud"Chamberlain, wrote in his column in the Columbus Citizen that he wanted the new people I would meet in Cambridge to pronounce my name correctly. "Dud" wrote that Rupp rhymes with Soup and not with Cup. As a result, I continue to pronounce it as though it were Roop. But I am in the minority. Now virtually all the Rups in the United States pronounce it as Rup. This is true of our branch as well as the Pennsylvania branch. The well-known basketball coach, Adolph Rupp of the University of Kentucky, was referred to as "Old Rup and ready", rhyming his name with cup.

I believe that virtually every branch of Rups has gone through this experience. As a result, a few who wanted to keep the old pronunciation changed the spelling so as to avoid the problem, and thus Rupp became Roup, Roop, Ruopp, Rupe, or Ruppe. This happened many years ago. My father found evidence of this as did Wendell Roop in his research on the Rupp name.

I know of no member of the descendants of the Fulton County, Ohio, branch who has changed the spelling of their name, but they have changed the pronunciation.

There is one spelling of the name that has intrigued me, and that is the Ropp family of Illinois. There is a possibility

that this is an off-shoot of the Rupp name many generations ago when they were leaving Europe. They are Mennonites, and there are some of the same family names in their family records. For a number of years I received invitations to their family reunions. My father remembered meeting one of the Ropps at a funeral at Eckley cemetery in Fulton County around 1900.

But this family is large, and adding the Ropps would only make it larger. Nevertheless, the Ropps have made a distinguished contribution to Mennonite history and Ropp Hall at Bluffton College gives testimony to that.

PART II

THE SECOND AND THIRD GENERATIONS OF JOHANNES RUPP THE ELDER

In Part Two, we are devoting a brief chapter to each of the six children of Johannes. In these chapters we list all of the grandchildren who comprise the third generation. It is this second and third generation that migrated from Europe to America. They cleared new land in Ohio. These were the pioneers to new territory, and here we witness the breakup of the family as they spread out to new territory.

CHAPTER V

The I Branch of John Rupp

We will start with John, the eldest child of Johannes Rupp of Orschweier. I believe that he was born about 1781 in Orschweier. He emigrated to the United States in 1838 with his wife. His passport was issued at Colmar, France, on March 6, 1838, and it is numbered 277. The name of his wife is not given. Some of his sons and daughters, as well as his brothers and sisters, had preceded him to Ohio. He was probably about 58 years old when he came to Ohio and located in German Township which was at the

western end of Lucas County. The 1840 Ohio census lists a John Rupp and wife as making their home with their son John Rupp. This couple is not listed in the 1850 census, and so it is assumed that they passed away in the decade from 1840 to 1850. I know that they are buried in an unmarked grave in the old Wyse cemetery one mile east of Archbold, one of the early cemeteries for Amish-Mennonites. My grandfather and father attempted to show me the approximate area where they were buried, but there were no markers for them sixty years ago.

John had a large family starting with John I-A born January 10, 1812, in Orschweier, and then followed in order Elizabeth (1814), Michael (1815, Magdalena, Anna, Joseph, Christian, Nicholas, Jacobina, and Jacob (b. March 15, 1827)). This makes ten children in a period of fifteen years. All came to Ohio except Elizabeth who married John Freyenberger. She is buried in Alsace, but her children came to Pettisville, Ohio, with their father in 1851.

For many years I believed that these ten children were the extent of the family and that John I-A, born in 1812, my great-grandfather, was the eldest in the family.

It fell to the lot of my son David to dig up some information that John was not I-A. That honor should go to Catherine, born in 1803. Dave found a skeleton in the closet in August 1973 while searching the archives near Orschweier. Dave was living in Paris in 1973, and he was attempting to get more information on Johannes Rupp of Orschweier. At this point I will quote from the letter I received from David in August 1973.

"Orschweier is a small town, no churches, but it does have a courthouse (Rathaus). However, records only begin at 1890. They had no information on Rupp nor had they heard the name. I was advised to go to the nearest larger town, Mahlberg, and see the Catholic priest.

"Mahlberg priest did not receive me but young nephew who spoke English said that records were only for the Catholics and he advised me to go to the Rathaus in Mahlberg. There I was warmly received by a young man who spoke French and did his best to advise me, despite his general pessimism that I would find anything dating that far back. The civil records in Mahlberg dated from 1870. He checked them without a trace of the Rupp or related names. After several phone calls to local protestant churches he learned that old archives dating back to c. 1650, for the protestants, were kept with the protestant minister in the next nearest town, Kippenheim. . . .

"I located the pastor's residence in Kippenheim about noon. . . . The pastor was timid but determined and spent nearly 2 hours with me going through a set of about eight ancient records which he kept in the basement of an adjacent schoolhouse. It was a tedious and boring job trying to read the ancient German script but he checked every entry! After an hour we found one entry for the name Rupp and it was (almost certainly) Dad's great-great-grandfather. The entry is for the birth of one Catharina (Rupp), 14 Jan. 1803. The father was listed as "Johannes Rupp, Mennonite religion, son of Johannes Rupp of Orschweier". It also notes that the mother and father were not married (at least at the

time of the birth). The mother was Catharina Margaretha Würrsclin born October 3, 1783. There were no other Rupp entries, even for specific birthdates which I had of other children. The rest of our time was spent in checking out the Würrsclin name. Her father was a protestant schoolmaster in Mahlberg, and her grandfather came from Lûrrach (near Basel)." This is the end of the quotation from David's letter.

I am convinced that John I's first wife was Catharina Wirsslin, and they had a daughter born October 3, 1783, and named her Catharina. I do not know what happened to this child. I do not know if Catharina Wirsslin was the mother of all of the other children in John I's family, but I doubt it. There is a gap of nine years (1803-1812) between the birth of Catharina and John.

John Rupp I - B. about 1781, probably in Orschweier,
Baden, Germany - D. between 1840 and 1850 in Fulton
County, Ohio - This is the I branch.

I-X Catharina - B. Jan. 3, 1803 - Kippenheim, Germany

I-A John - B. Jan. 10, 1812 - Orschweier, Germany

I-B Elizabeth - B. 1814 - Married John Freyenberger

I-C Michael - B. 1815

I-X Magdalena - B. 1816 - Married Jacob Schad of near
Orrville, Ohio. She was his second wife. No children.

I-D Anna - B. April 4, 1818 - Married Christian Brenneman of
Orrville

I-E Joseph - B. March 4, 1819
I-F Christian - B. March 1, 1820
I-G Nicholas - B. May 8, 1823
I-H Jacobina - B. 1825 - Married David Kimberlin of Orrville, Ohio
I-I Jacob - B. March 15, 1827

This I branch is not only the first and oldest branch in the Johannes Rupp tree, but is far and away the largest branch. It is also the only branch that was scattered from the outset of their entry to America. We do not know what happened to Catharina, who was born out of wedlock, but she probably remained in Europe. Elizabeth married John Freyenberger, and she died in Alsace, but her husband and children came to Fulton County later. Christian, Nicholaus, and Jacob never went to Fulton County. They settled near Whitehouse in Lucas County, and their descendants did not intermarry with their cousins in Fulton County.

Magdalena, Anna and Jacobina were "farmed out" in Mennonite homes near Orrville, and their descendants soon lost all contact with their cousins in Fulton County.

Only three boys, John, Michael and Joseph, settled in Fulton County. Their descendants are found in Fulton County today, and many have intermarried with descendants of the other five children of Johannes. The descendants of John I-A and Joseph I-E are much closer to the other Rupp branches in Fulton County than they are to the branches that settled near Orrville, Ohio, and Whitehouse, Ohio.

The emphasis by certain patriotic societies on relationship

to a certain ancestor is overdone. Anyone within an understanding of the mathematics of the situation can understand how trivial this relationship really is. We all have 2 parents, 4 grandparents, 8 great-grandparents and so on. By the time we get to the 10th generation numbering 1024 and find one that was Emperor of Liechtenstein, a friend is apt to wonder how many of the others were horse thieves.

Our newest granddaughter, Amy Sage Rupp, is ten generations removed from General Israel Putnam and nine generations removed from Johannes Rupp. On her family ancestral chart, I have identified six people at the 9th generation level. That is six out of 512 at that level. I cannot help but wonder what sort of people made up the remaining 506 of that generation in her ancestral chart.

It would be quite a crew, and I have no doubt that some of them were not the kind we would want to brag about. But it doesn't bother me, for if you will pick up your Bible and read the record of the ancestors of Jesus for 42 generations back to Abraham, you will find Tamar who played the harlot with Judah, and Bathsheba who committed adultery with King David.

No, I enjoy checking ancestral lines, but I do not worship them. I am basically curious, and I must confess that some of the black sheep in our family have interested me as much as some of their more circumspect cousins.

When I tell people I am working on their family tree, many ask, "Who are the famous names on our tree?" My father

gave me a good answer to that question.

One of the stories that stuck with me over the years, came from an account of a young Mennonite girl who came to Fulton County over a century ago. This girl worked in the home of a nobleman in the Palatinate area. She became pregnant. The nobleman paid her passageway from France to Ohio, where she was given a home by a kind Mennonite family. She had her child in that home. A few years later the wife of the farmer died, and he took this young unwed mother as his second wife, and they reared a second set of children. He also adopted the illegitimate child of his second wife. My father was very proud of this distant relative because this child grew up, honored and respected. It did not surprise my father that this particular child reared an unusually fine family. Dad always added that what was a possible tragedy, had a silver lining.

After studying genealogy, I am no longer disturbed by such a finding. Jacobus in his excellent book "Genealogy as Pastime or Profession" makes this comment: "Village morality prevailed in colonial days." There was little to do in the evening but read the Bible. Jacobus adds, "Courtship was the only pastime left to young people, and that they indulged in it heartily is evidenced by court records of the period." He then adds, "Illegitimacy was frequent and occurred more often in a good class of families than it would today."

I know that in all likelihood, any family that can boast prominent judges, statesmen or millionaires in its ancestry can with a little effort uncover family members who were penal offenders, prostitutes, pimps or paupers. We have only ourselves to account for, and I have as much contempt for those who ignore the more unfortunate, as I do for those who over-emphasize this relationship to a prominent person.

But it is that false pride that exists that permits fly-by-night concerns to make a racket publishing flimsy family trees that exhibit no depth of research, or produce a family coat-of-arms that is fictitious. Andrew Moriarty, writing in the New England Register, said, "The American genealogical public has exceedingly strong desire to deduce their descent by hook or by crook from the same effete royal and noble houses of Europe. An investigation of these claims shows that not one in twenty of such pedigrees can stand up under the searching test of modern investigation." One genealogist has pointed out that of the 5000 heads of families who came to America from 1620 to 1640, less than 1% are known to have belonged to the upper gentry of England.

CHAPTER VI

The II Branch of

Barbara Rupp and Joseph Roth

Barbara Rupp II, the second known child of Johannes, was born about 1783 in Orschweier. Here we get a lucky break, for

Robert Lutz of 21 Quai Rouget de L'Isle, F67 Strasbourg, France, found her marriage record and the dates of birth of her first children.

Lutz's record indicates that Barbara was born in 1783 at Orschweier (Haut-Rhin) and was the daughter of Johannes Rupp and Magdalena Wagler. This is the only evidence I have of the name of the wife of Johannes Rupp.

Barbara married Joseph Roth May 27, 1803, and moved to Alsace. Roth is reported to have been the owner of a large mill on the Rhine River. He was considered well-to-do, but repeated harassment by civil authorities caused him to lose his property. They were Amish-Mennonites. It is believed that both died before 1834 and were probably buried in an Amish-Mennonite cemetery in Alsace in the upper Rhine area. Four of their children were brought to Ohio along with their Rupp cousins to Fulton County between 1834 and 1830.

Anyone working with Roth family records will find that Roth is not only a very common name in Europe, but it is also a common name in the Amish-Mennonite migration to the United States. There are many other Roth families who came to Ohio in the early part of the 19th century, and some came to Fulton County. In all probability they were closely related to Joseph Roth, but I have no record as to how they were related. These records on the Rupp tree of the #II branch list only the children of Barbara Rupp and Joseph Roth.

Joseph Roth - B. 1770

Married Barbara Rupp - May 27, 1803

Children:

II-X Joseph Roth - B. and D. in infancy

II-X Henry Roth - B. and D. in 1806

II-A Henry Roth - B. Aug. 11, 1807 Alsace - Married Mary Aeschliman

II-B Jacob Roth - B. 1811

II-C Christian Roth - B. Nov. 18, 1814 - The 1850 census lists him as age 33 from France and his wife Anna as 31 from France

II-D Nicholas Roth - B. 1820 - The 1850 census lists Nicholas as age 30, born in Germany and his wife Elizabeth as age 25, born in Germany. Their two children, Chris (3) and Nicholas (1) were born in Ohio.

You may have noticed that there are many Mennonite family names that are also Jewish family names, such as Roth, Steiner, Neuhauser, Miller and many others. I do not think it is just a coincidence for Jews were persecuted in Europe for many generations. When Anabaptists were persecuted with them, it is possible that some intermarriages may have resulted. One Mennonite historian has challenged that contention - but it is a possibility.

Donald L. Jacobus, a well known genealogist, thinks that it is unwise to carry the female line down beyond the first or second generation. He points out that as you proceed, the descendants in the female lines outnumber the name-bearing descendants by a ratio increasing with each generation. In the second it is 1 to 1; in the third generation it is 1 to 3; by

the fourth it is 1 to 7, and in the fifth generation the ratio is 15 to 1 for names not bearing the name of the original ancestor.

That is true, although those in the female line inherit from the same genes that produced the female lines.

The big factor is interest. Most people are interested only in the name they bear. A family name that goes back to a great-great-great-grandparent that they never heard of, means little to them. Unless the family name is that of a famous president, or other well known personage, they are not interested. There are far too many people who want to brag about distant relationship that is really meaningless.

CHAPTER VII

The III Branch in Johannes Rupp Tree

Christian Rupp and Christina Stuckey

Christian was the third child of Johannes Rupp and was probably born about 1790. The 1850 Ohio census lists Christian as 60 years of age, and that confirms earlier information as to his place in the family. It is unfortunate that in the early charts I made that I list Christian as Number IV, but I am now correcting that.

There is a seven-year gap between Barbara II and Christian III. There may have been other children who died in infancy. Then there is a gap of eleven years until the birth of Jacob in 1801, who heads the IV branch. I believe there was

a Michael, born circa 1791. We find a trace of him in Europe, but not in America. Some later researcher may locate Michael. I lean strongly to the opinion that Magdalena Wagler bore both Christian and Michael and then died at about 40 years of age.

Christian Rupp married Christina Stuckey about 1823 when he was 32 or 33 years old and she was 25. Christian and Christina were the first children of Johannes to reach German Township in Ohio. Fortunately, we have located the record of their arrival in America on May 19, 1834, in the port of New York. They sailed from Le Havre, France, on the L'Edmund. The ship had 288 passengers under Captain Audiburt. This ship list says that Christian was 42 years of age and that his wife was 33 years of age. These ship records show a son, age 7, and three daughters, ages 5, 3, and 1. This age on Christian would indicate his birth year as 1792. Yet when Christian registered for the Ohio census in 1850 in Fulton County, he gave his age as 60. Some of these discrepancies can be accounted for according to time of year when the question of age is raised. Some people date them up a year. To a question thrown at you by a stranger, you might respond as "going on 60, just past 60, approximately 60," and so on.

Christian and Christina and their four children sold their belongings in Alsace, where the Stucki family lived, and left Mulhouse on March 8, 1834, traveling overland to Le Havre, France, an arduous trip taking 17 days. They left Le Havre on April 8 and arrived in New York May 19, a trip of 41 days. You can make it today in a commercial flight in just

a few hours. Here they took the 343-mile long Erie Canal through New York State and then by canal boat to Canal Fulton in Wayne County, Ohio, to join their Amish-Mennonite friends.

The opening of the Erie Canal in 1825 was a godsend to the new emigrants moving west. It not only made it easy travel for women and children with direct connection to the canal systems in Ohio and Indiana, but at a very low cost. It was a boon to the Ohio farmer, for he could now ship his produce to eastern markets. The freight rate from Buffalo to Albany, New York, was cut from \$100 a ton to \$6 a ton.

In Wayne County, three men in the group of new arrivals were selected to travel westward to the Black Swamp area to check on government land that might be available to new settlers. Christian Rupp was one of the three. Putnam County was rejected because good timber was scarce. They traveled as far west as Fort Wayne and then returned by a route that was slightly north of their trip out. Here they met Joseph Bates, a lone trapper who told them of land that was slightly higher than the surrounding flat area. They chose a site that is now known as the Lauber Hill area. They filed claims at the land office at Wapakoneta. But Chris Rupp did not take his family out to the new territory at once. They worked together as was their custom in erecting homes and barns for each other. The first cabin was a 20' by 24' log cabin for Christian Lauber. His daughter, Magdalena, when she grew up, married John Rupp who headed the I-A branch. The Lauber cabin was started August 22, 1834. Only two cabins were completed before winter set in. Christian did not move from

Wayne County to Lauber Hill settlement until the next year. In the meantime other boats were bringing more Amish-Mennonite settlers to Ohio.

Christian Rupp's importance in the Amish-Mennonite church is attested to by the fact that the Mennonite Encyclopedia lists him as the first Amish-Mennonite preacher in northwestern Ohio. Some called him an early bishop in the church, but these titles were earned by church custom as none of their early ministers had any formal training in theology. Each family had devoted much of their spare time to a study of the Bible.

In my charts, I list Christian Rupp born circa 1827 as the eldest child. The boat list when they entered the port of New York lists a 7-year old boy. This Chris married Magdalena Roth, a cousin of the Roth boys, and this became the III-A branch - a very large branch.

Some said that Christina Rupp, who married Jacob King, belongs to the III family and was five years older than Christian, she being born in 1822. This does not tally with the ship lists. I have listed her as III-B, although records on date of birth are confusing.

Other children in the family were Anna, born Sept., 1, 1828, the III-C branch; and Magdalena, who heads the III-D branch, born circa 1832. (One of the three little girls listed in the ship list in 1834 must have died in infancy, for I found no record of her heading any branch, unless we have a ten-year error in the age of Christina.) After Magdalena came John, born Oct. 12, 1834. He was born in Ohio while the family was migrating west. He heads the III-E

branch. Elizabeth was born in 1837 and died in 1915. She remained single, and so it fell to Barbara, born in 1841, to head the III-F line.

CHAPTER VIII

The IV Branch in Johannes Rupp Line

Jacob Rupp and Magdalena King

Jacob Rupp was born circa 1801, a full decade or more after Christian who heads the III branch. For many years I erroneously listed Jacob as older than Christian. You can readily understand how difficult it is for a person to list in chronological order ten or twelve aunts and uncles who are 20 to 40 years older. I remember talking with many people who "were not quite sure" of the chronological order of certain members of the family.

Jacob married Magdalena King of the King (or Koenig) family that lived not far from Orschweier. Magdalena was born about 1803 judging by later census records. I could not find their names in any of the ship lists in the Port of New York. I would guess it to be between 1835 and 1840 because Magdalena, their fifth child, was born in Germany February 16, 1835, and Joseph, their sixth child, was born in Ohio June 14, 1840.

We do know that Jacob and Magdalena and five of their children traveled from the Duchy of Baden to German Township not long after the settlement at Lauber Hill. Like all the other children of Johannes Rupp, they were dedicated members of the Amish-Mennonite religion.

Their first child was Christian, born 1827, who heads the IV-A branch, and here we have the unusual situation of a duplication of records because Christian Rupp married Elizabeth Freyenberger, a first cousin once removed, who heads the I-B-1 line. Elizabeth's mother was Elizabeth Rupp (B. circa 1814), who was a first cousin of the Christian Rupp (B. 1827) that married her daughter. Thus the IV-A line and the I-B-1 lines are identical.

The second child in IV line was Barbara, born December 18, 1828, who heads the IV-B line. The third child was Fannie, born August 31, 1832. On some records the Fannie is listed as Verena, and I have also heard the nickname of Aunt "Francy". The fourth child was Jacob Rupp, Jr., born January 12, 1834, and he duplicated the act established by his older brother Christian. He also married one of the Freyenberger girls (Katherine) who heads the I-B-3 branch and was a first cousin once removed. Not only did they marry a very close relative, but the children of Chris and Jacob were also double first cousins. The IV-D line and I-B-3 lines are identical. If all this confuses you, lay it out on a chart and you will perceive the manner in which they were related on the Johannes Rupp line. They may have been just as closely related on the Freyenberger or some other line.

The next two children were Magdalena, born February 16, 1835, in Germany, and Joseph, born June 14, 1840, in Ohio and thus head the IV-E and IV-F branches.

Then I found two names that stump me. Early census records show two more girls born to the Jacob IV line. They were Maria,

born in 1843, and Elizabeth, born in 1846. They were still living at the time of the 1860 census. Did they remain single? Did they die at an early age? Did they marry out of the church and leave the Archbold community? It is odd that I have not found any further trace of them. I remember one branch that was omitted in a survey I made in 1927. Later I located her and learned that she had left the church and been shunned by relatives. She had reared a fine family, and so I placed her in her proper place on the family tree.

In the winter of 1875, Jacob left Archbold to visit Joseph and Magdalena who lived near Leo, Indiana. He became ill with smallpox and died. He is buried in an unmarked grave in Schlatter cemetery.

CHAPTER IX

The V Branch of Magdalena Rupp and John King

Magdalena, head of the V branch of the Johannes Rupp family, is believed to have been born about 1803 in Orschweier. She married John King (also spelled as Koenig in Germany). He was from an Amish-Mennonite family and was born in 1799. They emigrated to Fulton County, Ohio, probably after 1835. It is believed that after their marriage they moved back to an area near Basel, Switzerland, for they list Switzerland as their homeland in the U. S. census records. The U. S. census records are intriguing as to country of origin. I learned in recent

years that when the authorities in Alsace refused to give the Mennonite farmers a passport to go to the United States, that some of them went back to Switzerland where they had formerly lived, and obtained a passport from Swiss authorities.

It is believed that Magdalena (Rupp) King's first five children were born in Switzerland. These children were double first cousins to the Jacob Rupp IV branch. It is believed that this family lived not far from Montbeliard. The children were:

- V-A Christian King - B. April 6, 1827, near Basel, Switzerland - Emigrated to Fulton County, Ohio, area - The 1850 census lists Christian, Elizabeth and Anna and their parents, as from Switzerland.
- V-B Elizabeth - born about 1829 - 1850 census lists her as 20 - Married Joseph Gerig.
- V-C Anna - B. Oct. 30, 1830 - 1850 census lists Anna as 19 - Married David Grieser.
- V-D David King - born in Ohio about 1837-38 - Married Barbara Krouse.
- V-E Joseph King - born about 1840-41 - Married Mary Brodbeck.
- V-F Barbara King - 1850 census indicates Barbara was born about 1842-43 - Married Christian Krouse, a brother of Barbara Krouse.

There is no information on these last three children. I have no records of any children. It is reported that Mary Brodbeck, wife of Joseph King (V-E), had children by a previous marriage to a man named Leininger.

John King died in February 1864, but we have no date on the death of Magdalena who heads the V branch.

Although the V branch is closely related to many of the other Rupp branches, I have not followed up on my early surveys of these families. The younger generations are too far removed from their Rupp name. That is why it would be well for someone in this branch to write a King genealogy showing all of the descendants of John King and Magdalena Rupp. It would be exactly the same as our V branch in Johannes Rupp charts, but more of these people would be carrying the King family name. There are none that carry the Rupp name unless they married back into one of the other Johannes Rupp lines.

It was my impression that many in this line will be found in Amish-Mennonite churches. I would not be surprised to find many of the King and Short families listed on this tree in the Lockport Amish-Mennonite church.

CHAPTER X

The VI Branch of

Peter Rupp and Barbara Goldsmith

Peter Rupp heads the VI branch of the Johannes Rupp family. He was born June 11, 1805. One family record says he came from Alsace, but he was probably born in Orschweier, Germany. His wife probably came from Baden, and they may have lived there before migrating to Ohio. In the 1850 census Peter lists his homeland as Germany, and Barbara lists her native country as Switzerland.

Peter Rupp and Barbara Goldsmith emigrated to Fulton County, Ohio, about 1835. It is not clear whether they were married in Europe or in Ohio. Their children were:

VI-A Barbara Rupp - Born about 1838 in Ohio according to 1850 census - Married Christian Nofsinger.

VI-B Jacob F. Rupp - B. Nov. 14, 1840, in Ohio - Died Dec. 20, 1928.

VI-C Christian Rupp - B. Feb. 2, 1840, in Ohio - Died Oct. 20, 1913.

VI-D Peter J. Rupp - B. Nov. 29, 1843, in Ohio - Died Jan. 15, 1921.

VI-E Benjamin Rupp - B. 1847 in Ohio

VI-F-X Gideon Rupp - B. in Ohio

VI-F Joel Rupp - B. in Ohio - D. 1925

VI-G-X Daniel Rupp - B. April 8, 1855, in Ohio at Pettisville - Died July 23, 1947 at Falfurrias, Texas - He did not marry. He was the last of the grandchildren of Johannes Rupp.

This branch is not large, but a considerable amount of work has been done on it due to the interest of some of the descendants of Peter. Many of this group are centered in the Pettisville area of Fulton County. They have intermarried with other branches of the Rupp tree. Many are still members of Amish-Mennonite as well as Evangelical-Mennonite churches. It would not be too difficult to complete some of the branches on the VI line.

Was there a VII branch? This is an interesting question when you read the letter from Dr. Zier, Director of State Archives in Baden and reported in the early part of this book.

I feel certain that a Michael Rupp existed and that he was close to Christian III in age. But we have lost track of him, and someday someone may locate the information that will assist in locating this branch of the Johannes Rupp family.

PART III
FURTHER DETAILS ON THIRD,
FOURTH AND FIFTH GENERATIONS

CHAPTER XI

"Some Observations I Have Made Concerning
the Rupp Family Records in 1975"

When I first planned this book, it was my intention to list every person on each branch along with their spouses. I wanted to include the date and place of birth, date and place of marriage, and date and place of death. I actually have much of that information in my files. I wanted to add such items as religion, occupation, military service, honors received in various lines of endeavor, cause of death, and other items of interest to later generations. I certainly had grandiose ideas. Such a task is impossible without a large staff working full time and the spending of thousands of dollars. The basic statistical data I have on file would literally fill volumes.

Consequently, many will be disappointed because some relatives failed to get proper recognition. Our family has produced many fine men and women. But I have come to agree with a competent genealogist who doubted if there was such a thing as a family of special distinction.

My own summary is as follows. The original members of the family through the second, third, and fourth generations of the Johannes Rupp tree were primarily farmers. They were highly successful farmers and many of them were considered "well-to-do",

and "leaders in the community". Most of them until 1900 were still members of the Mennonite church. The Egli dispute had divided many of the Rupp families. Some remained in Amish-Mennonite (or Old Mennonite Church) and some joined the Defenceless Mennonite (now Egangelical Mennonite branch).

By 1900 many of them were getting involved in small business ventures. By 1975 these business ventures had blossomed into highly successful financial enterprises. You have only to study the statistics to realize the enormous growth of some of these enterprises through the middle of the 20th century to appreciate the rapid growth in wealth of some of these Mennonite families. There are today many very well-to-do descendants of Johannes Rupp.

There are many examples of this growth. The Brotherhood Insurance Company was founded by a group of men in the Defenceless Mennonite church in 1917. Albert Neuenschwander and Aaron Sauder started this as a cooperative fire and casualty insurance for members of the Defenceless Mennonite churches in Archbold, Pioneer, and Bluffton, Ohio; Gridley and Flanagan, Illinois; Grabil and Berne, Indiana; and Sterling, Kansas. These were small rural churches. One of the early reports shows a premium income of \$108,771. In 1973 the premium income had reached \$3,727,000 and the total assets were \$3,156,000. My uncle, Peter Rupp, served as President of Brotherhood Insurance during the period of its greatest expansion, from 1932 through 1966. He is still active today as a representative of that company.

Twenty-seven years ago the Brotherhood Insurance Company developed an off-shoot from the fire and casualty business, to start a life insurance company. They called it the Mutual Security Life Insurance Company, and here again the promoters of the new venture were primarily from the very small Evan. Menn. church. My first cousin, Maurice Rupp, became their second president. In 27 years this company has grown from scratch to the point where in 1975 it now has over one billion dollars written in life insurance.

A large number of the leaders of these two insurance companies will be found on the Johannes Rupp family tree.

Another example is the entry of Mennonite families into the chick hatchery business early in the 20th century. In a few years the Mennonite businessmen were the leaders in the chick hatchery business in Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, and Illinois. A large number of them were on the Rupp tree. An uncle by marriage, but from another well-known Mennonite family, became the largest single dealer in day-old-chicks in the United States.

Another industry was the milk condensing started by Amos Neuhauser at Vera Cruz, Indiana. Early investors in this were primarily Mennonite, and many of them were on the Johannes Rupp tree. This Hoosier Milk Condensory spread into a variety of dairy products, including powdered milk. They moved from Bluffton to Ft. Wayne, Indiana, and to other sections of Indiana. They sold out in 1958. The Neuhauser family has excelled in business enterprise, but I have always been impressed with their energy and enthusiasm.

Another example of the growth of an enterprise is that of Sauder Woodworking Company, founded 40 years ago. The founder and president of the company is Erie Sauder, who is also on the Johannes Rupp tree. This plant now employs over 300 people making a line of tables, cabinets, and shelving. Like many of his Mennonite cousins who are very busy businessmen, he does not hesitate to devote time to his latest enterprise, the Sauder Museum. He also is the leader in the movement to help Mennonites from Europe in resettling in Uruguay and Paraguay. Here they are assisting the native Indians in establishing their own enterprises.

And so the story went. Men took small industries, and through hard work and due to their determination to produce a good product, they were overwhelmingly successful. The list is long and I would like to name all of the enterprises, but I might miss some deserving establishment. It is not easy to get full information on financial growth of some of the enterprises sponsored by descendants of Johannes Rupp.

I have been in the homes of many of my Rupp cousins, and I can only say that their homes in 1975 are a far cry from the log cabins built on Lauber Hill less than 140 years ago.

With the increase in wealth and a genuine interest in education, came a complete change in the picture of the 6th, 7th and 8th generations of Johannes Rupp's family. It is not fair to assume that only the well-to-do sent their children to college. There were many who sacrificed to get a good education. Those who unwittingly say that Mennonites are not interested in education do not know the facts. I have checked many branches of our family, and I am certain that college attendance in the past forty years is well above the national average. Many have

been on scholarships and have won honors in their field. It is interesting to note that the state of Ohio has for a number of years had its National Science Day awards, not in the center of the state as Columbus; not in a big city such as Cleveland or Cincinnati or Akron; but in little Archbold, Ohio, the center of German Township. Much of this can be attributed to Vince W. Taylor and the Archbold Buckeye. But it is significant that this small town, the heart of a Mennonite community, should draw the attendance statewide in Ohio of the outstanding high school students in science.

When the younger members of our family went away to college, it brought about a distinct change in the records of descendants of Johannes Rupp, particularly in occupation and in place of residence. We have many farmers, but we now have lawyers, doctors, journalists, and an overwhelming number of teachers and businessmen. We are also getting an ever increasing number of people in research, and the newer occupations. As far back as 1910 Johannes Rupp had descendants who were missionaries in the Congo, and some were on the Keith Orpheum stages of our theaters.

He would find an ever wider range today. All of this has created problems for the family historian. In recording birth and marriage records of descendants and their spouses, I believe that every one of the 50 states is represented along with several foreign countries. In recording religion, I believe that there have been dramatic changes as people moved away from their home community. Many denominations are now represented, although in

Mennonite communities such as Fulton County, Ohio; Allen and Adams Counties, Indiana, and others; there is still heavy representation in the Mennonite church. When I asked for the location of the Evan. Menn. church in Archbold from a man on the street, he said, "You mean you are looking for the Rupp Mennonite church."

There are a few things I have not found in my work with the Rupp records. (1) I can back W. O. Taylor up in one respect, in that I have yet to find a Johannes Rupp descendant who was in jail. I might agree with my father that there may have been a couple who should have been locked up. (2) I have found some who had very little of this world' goods, but have found none who were hopelessly poor. You may remember that it was Berne, Indiana, a Mennonite community, that got national attention when it was reported that they did not have a single person on relief. In that regard, we will have to admit that Mennonite people do take care of their own. (3) I have never found one who was an artist. I have found some excellent musicians and a number of music teachers, but I never found an artist.

As a registered Democrat I have usually been classified as an independent with liberal leanings. I was not surprised to find that a large part of my Rupp cousins would be classified as conservative Republicans. I believe that one of the reasons our people do not embrace the liberal point of view is that they have not experienced the extreme poverty and the utter hopelessness in some of our city slums. We are used to seeing parents take responsibility for their children. Orphans in a Menn. community, aged and handicapped people are cared for by relatives and

neighbors in the church. That is why many of our people find it difficult to understand the viewpoints of those people who have lived in poverty for generations.

Another thing I have never found in visiting my relatives is a homosexual. I may have overlooked all the evidence, but I have come to the conclusion that most of Johannes Rupp's progeny lived normal sex lives. They may have been a little too active at times, but that may have been par for the time and place. I have noticed a distinct drop in the size of the family in recent years, particularly when they moved to the city - or attended college and married a little later in life. About the only large families I have found in recent years have been in rural areas, in Mennonite homes where girls were married in their late teens.

I have found no intermarriage with negroes, but that is probably due to the fact that most of the cousins have tended to live in all-white communities.

One thing surprised me, and it may be that my surveys have been limited to too few members of the family. Because of the historic stand of the Mennonite church against participation in war as a means of settling disputes, I assumed that many of my cousins who are aware of the pacifist attitude of the Mennonite faith would be bitterly opposed to our involvement in Vietnam. I have long considered our involvement in Vietnam as utterly stupid. To my surprise many of the cousins were rather disinterested about the whole affair. Statistics show that of the total number of "conscientious objectors" who were granted alternate service in

World War II, 40% were Mennonites. Some entered military service and some who were members of Mennonite churches took alternate service. It is probably due to the fact that the draft boards in Mennonite communities automatically granted alternate service to a member of a denomination that historically opposed war. Mennonite young men did not have to fight for that exemption as did young men in other churches who abhorred war - but were not given status of "conscientious objector" by their draft board. I was disturbed by the lack of interest in some of our relatives for the plight of those men who suffered because they opposed the war.

I do not think that the Mennonite people fully appreciate what it has meant to their families to have gone through four wars in the past 60 years and discover that, of the thousands of men of military age during those periods, only a handful were killed in war. An increasing percentage have volunteered for active service. Some of those in alternate service have made sacrifices and volunteered for jobs that were distasteful and occasionally involved hazard. Yet I believe there are those who have not fully understood what it has meant to our people to have been relatively secure from front-line service. I found only one man who died in camp in the Civil War. We may have had a handful in the Spanish-American War. The number in World War I was also predominated by those in alternate service. But there has been a rapid change since 1940. I do not have the statistics, but the records if completed would show a considerable increase in military service by our young men in recent years.

At the same time there has been an increasing interest in political life. In the early days in Ohio our people simply wanted to be left alone. They did not run for political office. This may explain the apathy of some of our people toward national issues. Their primary concern was their family and their religion. But that too has shown modification in the past three decades as more and more are becoming involved in politics.

I have tried to picture some of the salient features of the present generation in our family line. Many have commented on their friendliness toward others. They trust their fellow men. Forty years ago I met a former State Superintendent of Banking at a local bank. He asked me, "Are you in any way related to Jesse Rupp?" I told him that he was my father. He then told me of a visit he had with my father when he was cashier of Peoples State Bank in Wauseon. The bank examiner asked my father why there were a number of loans on purchases of real estate where no collateral was listed as security. There was a simple notation that the loan had been granted on the word of the elders of the local Amish-Menn. church or Evan. Menn. church. My dad said that he had never lost a penny on that type of loan and that if their word was not good, then he would not be in the banking business. This made a vivid impression on the State Banking Superintendent. He told me that he had investigated other Mennonite communities and that he was thoroughly convinced of the integrity of these people.

In Part III I hope to bring the ancestral lines of Johannes down through four and five generations and to indicate what has

been done on each chart. Some of the I and II branches are now starting the 9th generation from Johannes. I will attempt to cite the geographical area where many of the records may be found today. If no place of birth is given, it often turns out to be Fulton County, Ohio, as an amazing part of the history of our family down to 1900 centers in the Archbold, Ohio, area and neighboring villages such as Elmira, Tedrow, Pettisville, and Stryker as well as Wauseon.

You will notice a dramatic change in the choice of surnames. In the first four generations, virtually every child had a Biblical name. For the boys it was John, Jacob, Christian, and to a lesser degree Henry, Michael, Daniel, and so on. Some of the Biblical names are not used frequently today, such as Seth, Ezekiel and Moses. Surprisingly little use was made of the name of Paul by our forebears. But there must be hundreds with the name of Jacob or John, and oftentimes there is not even a middle initial to distinguish them. I found an interesting situation at Grabill, Indiana, where I ran into three different Joseph Klopfensteins on my chart. I said, "How do you tell them apart?" They answered, "That's easy. The one over on that road is 'Cider Jo' (he had a cider mill); the one a little farther on was 'Tiler Joe' (he was a brick-layer); and I have forgotten the nickname of the third.

Today men's names run the whole gamut in choice of names. You name it and we will find it somewhere on the tree - although a good many still use the old favorites used a century ago.

When it comes to girls' names, the most used names a century ago were Mary, Barbara, Magdalena, Anna, Catherine, Verena or

Fannie, and Elizabeth. We also had other Biblical names as Sarah, Rachel, Lydia, Esther and many others.

Today Mary and Barbara and Elizabeth are still popular, but Anna has become Ann, Katherine has been switched to Kay, and there is a whole panorama of new names that will never be found in the Bible, but are very apt to show up in a movie magazine.

It is odd, but our ancestors did not follow the Puritan custom of giving the daughters the name of a cherished virtue such as Patience, Prudence, Charity, and so on. We did avoid that custom.

Unfortunately, on virtually every tombstone and even in some obituaries, you will not find the maiden name for a deceased wife. That has been very disturbing to me in checking families. Women's lib may lead the female members of the family to assert their rights in establishing their own identity.

I will attempt to list some of the endogamous marriages (marriage to a cousin). Do not let that disturb you as all of us are involved to a greater or lesser degree in marriage with cousins. Human beings are bound to be related when they have lived together in one community for many years.

In each sub-branch I will indicate the number of actual names I have on that branch and after that I will make an estimate in parentheses of how many total names there might be on that branch if it were brought up to date. Keep in mind that my records are fairly complete from 1780 through 1930. Most of the missing names are those added in the last 40 years.

CHAPTER XII

Further Details on the John Rupp I Line

John Rupp I was the father of Catherina, born January 14, 1803 out of wedlock to Catherina Margaretha Würsslin. The mother was the daughter of the Protestant schoolmaster in Mahlberg. Since we have been unable to find any further trace of this child, we have been unable to include her as a separate branch of the John Rupp I family.

So the eldest son of John, who was also named John, becomes I-A. He was born Jan. 10, 1812 in Orschweier and died Feb. 15, 1877 near Archbold, Ohio. He married Magdalena Lauber in 1842. She was born Feb. 21, 1824 in Alsace and landed at the New York port on May 19, 1834, with the first group to go to German Township, Ohio. She died Nov. 23, 1874 in Fulton County near Archbold. Her parents built the first cabin in German Township at Lauber Hill only a few yards from where the Lauber Hill Reformed Mennonite church stands today. Their descendants are so numerous (Total on charts when completed should reach 3400 in 1975) that I am forced to sub-divide this I-A branch into a sub-branch for listing the great-grandchildren of Johannes through the I-A line.

I-A-1 Christian Rupp - B. 11-5-1843 - Fulton Co.
D. 1-18-1907 - Fulton Co.

Married Barbara Yoder - B. 1-13-1847
" 1-30-1868 D. 9-13-1898

Married Elizabeth Gerig - B. 3-15-1855
" 2-22-1901 D. 2-1-1939

Barbara was the mother of eight children born to this family. Mary (B. 10-25-1868) married Wm. Gernhardt. They had 7 children,

including two daughters who were missionaries to China. A number of the descendants are in the Allen County, Indiana, area.

Solomon (B. 2-6-1870) had 10 children and many of them are in Williams County in the West Unity area.

Rosina and Sarah have no descendants, but the 5th child, John Y. (B. 7-29-1879) had 5 children. Like Solomon, he has many descendants, but most of them are in northwestern Ohio in the area of Fulton and Williams Counties.

Leah did not marry, but Sam Y., the seventh child (B. 9-18-1886) had 10 children and had the largest branch on his tree. Many of the family are still concentrated in Fulton County.

Elizabeth, the 8th and youngest child, was born 9-16-1890. She married Albert Ringenberg, and their descendants have addresses in Illinois, Ohio, Indiana, and Washington, D.C. This is a good example of how a family scatters after they have completed their college education.

In the I-A-1 branch I have 289 names, but there could be close to 400 on this chart if every name is added to 1975. There is also some intermarriage with distant cousins. For example, Barbara Gernhardt - in I-A-1-1-5 married Ezra P. Steiner who is on the IV-E-3-4 line. John Y. Rupp's granddaughter, Ilene Rupp, married Denver Rupp who is on the I-A-7-3-8 line. Sam Y. Rupp's son Delmar married Ruth Joughin, who is on the II-C-2 line. Sam Y's daughter, Vera Rupp, married Franklin E. Rupp of the III-A-2-4-3 line.

I-A-2 Daniel Rupp - B. 3-4-1842
D. 5-11-1921

Married Katherine Short - B. 11-6-1849
" 8-14-1869 D. 9-28-1875

Married Magdalena Gerber - B. 1-22-1853
" 10-31-1876 D. 2-22-1936

Daniel Rupp had 4 children by his first wife, including three sons, Aaron, Jesse and Daniel. A daughter Sarah died in infancy. The subtotal at the close of their writeup reads 207 - (230). The 207 means that I now have 207 actual names on that chart, and in many cases this includes date and place of birth, marriage and death. The (230) is an estimate of possible total names on I-A-2 in 1975.

Aaron had one daughter. Jesse Rupp (B. 1-22-1874) was my father. He was the first in this family to go away to college. He was the first cashier of Farmers and Merchants Bank in Archbold, a job later held by other descendants of Johannes Rupp. Jesse Rupp was also the first in I-A-2 family to marry out of the Mennonite church and join the Methodist church. These things seem insignificant today, but they caused more than a ripple three quarters of a century ago. One little detail is worth recalling. He followed the Mennonite custom of sending all of his earnings to his parents until he was 21. When he was about 19, he was teaching rural school near Pekin, Illinois. He was homesick to see his family but could not get the money for train fare. So he borrowed a bicycle - the old style high wheel - and traveled dirt roads from Pekin, Illinois, to Archbold, Ohio. I never knew of this story until father's brothers told me after my father's death. Our family is widely scattered. It is one of the few that has no member in the Fulton County area. One of our sons has spent 12 of the last 16 years outside of the United States. Like many others of our cousins today, virtually all of

the descendants are college graduates and are in a wide range of occupations.

Daniel Rupp, the 4th child, was born 3-12-1875. He married back into the Rupp line as his wife, Sarah Miller, is also on the IV-B-2-1 line. Their son Maurice also married back into V-A-11-1 line. The third generation of this family is also widely scattered.

Daniel Rupp, the elder, had 8 children by his second wife. Albert, Ella and Lydia have no descendants. However, Edward (B. 9-27-1879) had one daughter. Here we have a double transfusion of Rupp genes. For Edward married Ida Miller (sister of Dan's wife Sarah) in the IV-B-2-4 line. Then their daughter Katherine married Rev. Reuben Short of the I-A-7-5-3 line - so that their children are on the tree in 3 different places. Reuben Short is also a minister in the Evan. Menn. church. I have made no record, but I would like to know how many of the ministers or missionaries in the Evan. Menn. church were descendants of the original Johannes Rupp of Orschweier. The same question might be asked in the old Amish-Menn. church.

The next child was Marianne, B. 7-31-1881, who married Amos Neuhauser. They had 5 children. This family has been very successful in several business enterprises. It all started with the milk condensory started by Amos at Vera Cruz, Indiana, and it grew and grew and grew. This is a family that is also widely scattered. Most of Daniel Rupp Senior's children were leaders in the Evan. Menn. church, but I believe the descendants of Jesse and Marianne are the only two branches that are now listed in other denominations.

Elmer Rupp (B. 5-13-1885) was the 9th child in the family. They had 7 children with 4 having descendants. They too are widely scattered although Elmer and Esther still live in Archbold, Ohio, along with Peter and Priscilla, the last of the Daniel Rupp I-A-2 line.

Peter (B. 12-17-1888) married Clara Vonier of the V-A-6 line. Uncle Pete has given me encouragement on this family tree. Most of his family have remained active in the Archbold area, and Pete still goes to his office every day. He has had a wide range of business interests, chief of which is the Brotherhood Insurance Company of Ft. Wayne. His son Robert is also active in it. Dan's son Maurice, now deceased, was also a leader in the Brotherhood Insurance and probably was the first in this family to be listed in Who's Who in America.

I cannot help but mention the fact that, though they were not young men, Elmer and Pete accompanied shipments of livestock to Yugoslavia, behind the "Iron Curtain", as a gift shipment by Mennonite farmers to people who needed help. This sort of enterprise seems to me to have been the kind of project that would do credit to Johannes Rupp and his people.

Priscilla, the youngest (B. 2-4-1892), married Ezra Neuhauser and had 4 children. When I told Priscilla that one of our sons had married a girl born in Vietnam of Eurasian background and told her how much we admired our new daughter-in-law, Priscilla informed me that her family was getting around too. One of her grand-daughters married a dentist whose people had a Muslem background from the Middle East. We both agreed that

the world was indeed getting smaller and that all men are brothers.

I-A-3 John Rupp - B. 12-8-1848
D. 12-22-1926

Married Magdalena Smith - B. - -1851
D.

Married Magdalena Aeschliman - B. 8-18-1851
" 11-1-1882 D. 1908

Married Ida Zook - B.
D.

John had 3 children by his first wife, 4 by his second,
and none by his third.

The eldest child was Emma. She married John King, and
they had 6 children. This family is scattered although some of
the children of Frank Rice are in the Fulton County area. Isaac
Rupp, the second child in I-A-3 line, had one daughter, but she
has no descendants.

Ida Rupp, the 3rd child, was born 1-25-1878. Her first
husband was Oliver L. Smith, who is also on the V-A-1 line. They
had 9 children. This is a large branch, and recently I have had
good help from Mrs. Harlan Kropp (Luetta Smith) of Windham, Ohio,
in getting the records for the Oliver Smith line. Many now live
in northeastern Ohio and they were interested in news of their
relatives back in Fulton County.

John Rupp's second wife was Magdalena Aeschliman who is
on the IV-B-3 line. Their second child was Mary Ann (B. 5-16-1890)
and she married Emil Short. They had 9 children and 6 of them
have descendants. Most of them are in Henry or Fulton County.

The first child was Esther Rupp (B. 9-15-1888) and she too
married back into the Rupp line when she married Noah C. Rupp

who is on the III-A-2 line. Thus their three children are descendants of Johannes Rupp through the I-A-3, the IV-B-2, and the IV-A-2 lines.

The next child, Carolyn, married Aaron Oswald and they had one son who was living in Aurora, Nebraska. The 7th child in John Rupp's family was Enos (B. 9-2-1884). Enos was already on the I-A-3 and the IV-B-3 lines, but he complicated matters when he married Jennie Rupp (B. 8-13-1883) who was on the II-B-4 and the VI-F lines. Their sons, Leon and Mervin, can rightly claim membership on the Johannes Rupp tree in four different branches.

The youngest child in John's family was Sylvanus Rupp (B. 9-25-1892) and he also married back into the Rupp line when he married Mada Rupp of the III-A-1 line. 272 - (400)

I-A-4 Magdalena Rupp - B. 3-28-1852 - Fulton Co.
D. 9-19-1925 - Fulton Co.

Married Henry Stamm - B. 7-20-1855 - Switzerland
" 4-23-1877 D. 12-2-1932 - Fulton Co.
Fulton Co.

Magdalena and Henry had 10 children, and I well remember the visits to their home just one mile north of Archbold and only a short distance north of the Daniel Rupp home. Sauder Museum is just a short distance east of the Stamm home. It is an appropriate area for the site of the museum, for I believe that most of the farms for miles around were developed by early Mennonite settlers. Many of them were descendants of Johannes Rupp.

The first daughter of the Stamm family died at the age of thirteen. The second daughter, Elizabeth, (B. 11-7-1879) married

Albert P. Short and they had 4 children. One daughter, Lodema, was a missionary to the Belgian Congo. The other three lived in the Archbold area, but their children are now spreading out, particularly those who attended college.

The third child was Adolph (B. 10-13-1881) and he had a large family of eight children, many of them now residing in Lockport and Archbold vicinity. His daughter Florence married Raymond Grieser who is also on the V-C-6 line. Adolph Short's wife was Ida Short of the Peter D. Short family, and if there is any family in Fulton County that is more prolific than the Rupps, it would have to be the Shorts. If you doubt that, just look at the telephone directory.

The fourth child was Sarah (B. 5-20-1883) who married Simon P. Seiler. They had 5 children. Their eldest daughter Ruth (now Mrs. Edwin P. Tanner of Wauseon) has given me excellent help in keeping up on the records of the I-A-4 line which is a very large branch.

The next child was Gustav, born in 1884. He had 10 children and many, many grandchildren. Although virtually all of this family live in the vicinity of Archbold, I have never been able to keep up with this branch. The best I could get was an estimate of the number in each family of the 10 children of Gus Stamm.

Lydia and Emma were 6th and 7th and have no descendants. Fred Stamm was 8th (B. 7-10-1890). He had two wives, four children and many grandchildren. One of his daughters, Freda, married Orville Rupp, who is also on the I-A-5 line - a second cousin once removed.

Alvin Stamm, the next child in the I-A-4 line, was born 7-25-1893 and he too married into the Short family as did two of his sisters and one of his brothers. Alvin had one son by his first wife and one son by his second wife who was Alma Vonier who is also on the V-A-2 line.

Albert Stamm, the youngest, was born in 1897. He had four children and part of this family are in the Stryker area.

280 - (450)

I-A-5 Henry Rupp - B. 12-28-1853
D. 12-30-1937

Married Caroline Beck - B. 5-31-1855
" 4-23-1874 D. 11-2-1936

Henry and Caroline had but eight children, which made it one of the smaller of the I-A branches back in 1900. But it is easily the largest of the I-A branches today. They had 8 children, 60 grandchildren, and at last count 197 great-grandchildren plus many more. Carol Nafziger did a record on this family in 1966 and she had around 600 names on her chart. I counted 659 names on my chart of the Henry Rupp I-A-5 line, but I honestly believe it will go over 900 if brought up to date.

The first child of Henry and Caroline was Eliza Rupp (B. 2-5-1875). She married Jonas Short, but only one of their daughters has descendants.

The second child was Sarah (B. 8-16-1876) and she also married a Short. Sarah and Aaron had 7 children. Then came Simon M. Rupp and he married Emma Wyse and they had 5 children. Then came the first boy, Frank H. Rupp (B. 12-27-1879). I think some of Henry's children were born in Henry County. Frank married

Lydia Lugbill and they had five children. Following Frank came Daniel L. Rupp (B. 11-15-1872) who married Amanda Wyse and they had 9 children. The 6th child was Anna (B. 1-12-1884) who married Aaron D. Frey. They had 12 children. Then came Jacob H. Rupp who married Elizabeth Vonier of the V-B-5 line. They had 8 children. The youngest child, Harvey B. Rupp (B. 1-11-1888), married Mary Lantz (B. 4-26-1892). They had 11 children.

It appeared to me that some of the reasons for the enormous size of this branch are as follows. Many of them remained on rural farms in the Archbold area and tended to marry at an early age. When I visited some of the families thirty years ago, the majority were marrying people from the same church - be it Amish-Mennonite or Evan. Menn. Very few of the ones I contacted had gone to college. They lived on farms where large families could be of help in the economy of the time.

I have not begun to check out the present crop of young couples to see if the spouse is on the Johannes Rupp tree. I feel certain that a careful check of recent marriages will record many more who are on another line of the Johannes Rupp tree.

I have a few checks on marriages that go back many years. Herma Rupp, eldest daughter of Simon, married Dennis Stuckey of the I-B-2-4 line. Her brother, Eldon E. Rupp, married Lydia Stuckey, also of the I-B-2-4 line. The next brother, Lawrence L., married Lucretia Sauder of the III-B-2-3 line. Frank Rupp's daughter Viola married John G. Aeschliman who is on the I-B-2-1-4 line. Daniel Rupp's daughter Doris married Denver Bockman of the V-B-5 line. Harvey Rupp's son Orville married Frieda Stamm of the I-A-4-8 line.

This family has a number of people who are interested in the family history. This group is so large that a reunion of just the I-A-5 line alone would be larger than most family reunions. It all interests me, for in 1926 I sat in the home of Henry and Caroline Rupp and asked my great-aunt Caroline to give me the names of her grandchildren. I can remember that she laughed and told me that was asking too much for she could not remember all of their names. She did not need to apologize for not remembering all of them. She was very proud of each and every one. My visit with her was most enjoyable, and it has remained in my memory.

659 - (900)

I-A-6 Samuel Rupp - B. 8-20-1856
D. 12-17-1934

Married Elizabeth Short - B. 2-16-1857
" 3- -1877 D. 1-15-1933

Sam followed the pattern of his brother Daniel and married a younger sister of Dan's wife, from the Short family. Thus the children in I-A-2 and I-A-6 were double first cousins. This always brought to mind one of my favorite stories. When my father was asked the number of his first cousins, he replied, "I have 191 first cousins, but I would have 200 if I could count Uncle Sam's family twice." I think that I saw more of this family than any other of the great aunts and uncles because of that double relationship. It is also unusual in that Daniel and Samuel who were members of Defenceless Mennonite off-shoots went back to the old Amish-Mennonite church for their brides. You may not think that important, but back a century ago it was a bitter issue. My grandfather was forced to have a civil ceremony to marry Catherine Short because of the friction between the two branches of the Mennonite faith.

Sam and "Aunt Libbie" had 9 children and most of this family were in the Archbold area fifty years ago.

Mary, the eldest (B. 10-29-1885), married Ezra Oyer, another well known Mennonite name although it does not appear too often on Johannes Rupp's tree. Their children soon scattered, some to Adrian, Michigan, and one branch to Riverside, California.

Fannie, the second child, also married an Oyer, but they had no children. The third child was also a girl, Aldina (B. 8-28-1888). She married Emanuel King. They had two children, and some of this family were in Denver, Colorado.

The fourth child was Elizabeth, who died in infancy. Then came Ada (B. 8-29-1891) who also married into the Oyer family. Her husband was Elmer Oyer, and they had 7 children, many of whom remain in the Wauseon, Ohio, area.

Zilla, the next in the family, married Joseph Litwiler. They had one daughter, but I believe that she remained single. Like so many of our cousins in the various I-A lines, she became a teacher.

Then came the one and only son in the I-A-6 line and that was Ephraim (B. 9-15-1895). He married Minnie Diller, another good Mennonite name, although Phyllis Diller, the comedienne, is not a typical characterization of the Dillers I have known. Ephraim had 4 children. This family has moved to other parts of northern Ohio, and one branch went to Wayland, Iowa.

Rose (B. 11-3-1896) was the 8th child. She married Irvin King. They had 2 daughters, and their families were in Fulton County.

Blanch, the youngest of the 9 children, died at the age of 21.

126 - (200)

I-A-7 David Rupp - B. 5-17-1858
D. 12-2-1926

Married Magdalena Short - B. - -1861
" 1-29-1880 D. 7-2-1883

Married Lovina Snyder - B. 11-1-1867
" 5-27-1884 D. 5-24-1923

Uncle Dave had two children by his first wife and seven by the second. The first child, Andrew, died at five years of age.

The second child was Ella (B. 6-23-1882). She married John Yoder and they had two children. The Yoder name is also one of the most common family names in Mennonite communities. The families of the 10 Yoder children are fairly well concentrated in north-western Ohio. Loran Yoder, the second son, is the manager of the Yoder Machinery Company of Holland, Ohio. This is a highly successful firm serving a large area with farm and road machinery. Loran's grandson, Tom Yoder, is a young lawyer and he is also the best young genealogist in the family. His enthusiasm and energy make a welcome contribution to those who are working on family records in Mennonite families. This I-A-7 branch is large, and it represents the diversity of interests that can be found in large family trees today.

The third child and first child by the second wife, Lovina, was Levi Rupp (B. 2- -1885). He married Anna Short and they had 8 children. This family is centered around Archbold. Fortunately, I have fairly complete records on descendants of Ella Yoder and

Levi Rupp. Levi's youngest son Denver (B. 4-1-1920) married Eileen Rupp of the I-A-1-5-1 line.

The next child was Benjamin. He had one son, but this line has no further descendants. Dinah, the 5th child, was born 2-23-1888 and married Dan P. Short. Three of their six children married back into the Johannes Rupp tree. Rev. Reuben Short married Kathryn Rupp of I-A-2-6 line as well as IV-B-2-4 line. Their son Earl married Verile Neuhauser of the I-A-2-12 line. Their son Ronald married Florence Leupp of the I-A-8 line.

The 6th child Edwin (B. 5-5-1891) married Beatrice Bowers and they had three children who, after receiving advanced education, located in cities in the Pennsylvania area.

The 7th child was Laura (B. 3- -1893). She married Albert M. Seiler. They had 10 children and the majority of them are in the Archbold area.

The 8th child was Alma who married Clarence E. Wagner. Their five children could be contacted in the Wauseon community.

The 9th and youngest child was Lena (B. 10-31-1899). She married Grover C. Merrilat and their four children can be located primarily in Fulton County.

229 - (400)

I-A-8 Eli Rupp - B. 9-1-1860
D. 1-17-1939

Married Elizabeth Aeschliman - B. - -1860
" 2-2-1882 D. 7-4-1915

Married Caroline Beck - B. 9-28-1890
" 4-3-1917 D. - -1958

Eli and Elizabeth had no children. Elizabeth was an invalid when I first saw her many years ago in their farm home. But Eli

lost no time in having a family when he married Caroline Beck. They had five children. Alta (B. 1-31-1918) married Charles Bechtol. Then came Ada (B. 1-22-1919) who married Charles Mast. Later came Cora (B. 1-18-1921) followed by Lucinda (B. 10-18-1923). They also raised an adopted child, Florence, who married Ronald Short of the I-A-7-5 line.

I am sorry to report that I have lost track of the families in the I-A-8 line, although I believe that most of them are in northwestern Ohio in Amish-Menn. communities. Mrs. Nancy Seiler of Pettisville, a sister of Caroline Beck Rupp, may be of help in completing their tree. I have only 18 names on the I-A-8 chart. New members born since 1925 could total 50 to 100 new names. Eli may have the smallest branch in all of the ten I-A lines, but he also has one record that the others did not top. Eli had his first child when he was about 58 and his last when he was 63. Not many of Johannes Rupp's descendants will top that.

I-A-9 Mary Rupp - B. 12-25-1862
D. 7-4-1946

Married Eli Lantz - B. 11-27-1857
" 1-19-1882 D. 4-9-1937

This is the only one of the I-A lines that did not grow up in Fulton County, Ohio. Eli Lantz was a minister in the Defenceless Mennonite church and preached for many years in the church west of Berne, Indiana. When our family lived in Berne, I visited Aunt Mary Lantz's farm home several times.

They had 9 children, the eldest of whom was Ezra (B. 11-28-1882). He had 4 children, and this family is still represented in Adams County, Indiana.

The second child was Louise (B- 12-1-1884) who married Harry Neuhauser. They moved to West Unity, Ohio, where I lived during my high school days. They had two children. Their son Clyde married Doris E. Rupp, who is also on the I-B-1-13 and the IV-A-13 lines.

The next child was Albert (B. 12-26-1886) who followed his father's career into the ministry. He left one daughter with descendants, but I have had family addresses from Glendale, California, to Phoenix, Arizona.

The next child was Rosina (B. 5-8-1889) who married Elmer Stuckey of the Adams County area. They had two children. Rosina was followed by Ervin (B. 9-5-1891) who married and had two children in or near Dearborn, Michigan.

Then came Arvada (B. 2-27-1894) who married Edward Augsburger. Their three children should be found in the Adams County area. The next child was Dennis (B. 10-28-1895) who had three children in the Eluffton, Indiana, community. The next child was Mildred (B. 6-23-1900) who married Raymond Moser of Berne, Indiana, and she had three children. The youngest in the I-A-9 line was Arminda (B. 10-2-1902). She married Ezra Meshberger. She has one descendant but lost several children at birth.

I have 192 names on the I-A-9 chart, and it is complete to 1950, through the help of Louise Neuhauser. 192 - (400)

I-A-10 Seth Rupp - B. 5-7-1865
D. 9-13-1946

Married Mary Lantz - B. 3-9-1865
" 11-16-1885 D. 5-19-1890

Married Mary Ramseyer - B. 10-4-1867
" 8-28-1892 D. 9-25-1897

Married Mary Aeschliman - B. 12-15-1861
" 5-3-1898 D. 8-5-1933

Uncle Seth had three wives, but my father would comment, "He was smart. They were all named Mary, and he was not likely to make the mistake of calling his later wives by the wrong name."

Seth had one child by his first wife, Carrie (B. 8-28-1886). She married Henry Gerig of the Woodburn, Indiana, area. Their descendants are in that area.

The first child by the second wife was Abner (B. 7-27-1893). He had an adopted child, and her children grew up in Fulton County. Clarence, the next child, had no descendants.

Ora, the next child (B-12-22-1895), married Herma Vonier of the V-A-6 line. She has been very helpful in keeping track of Rupp cousins who are scattered to distant cities. They had four children, and a son and a son-in-law were ministers in the Evangelical-Mennonite church.

The next child, Viola, died in infancy. Then came the third set of children, headed by Oliver (B. 7-20-1899) and Ervin (B. 3-14-1902). Both have families in the Archbold area. The next two children, Bertha and Lovella, had no descendants.

57 - (100)

The I-B line of Elizabeth Rupp (B. circa 1814) and John Freyenberger (B. 1807) has been subdivided into charts for the great-grandchildren. I have provided more details on the I-A and I-B lines, not only because they are larger and go back

further than any other of the branches in the Johannes Rupp tree, but also I have elaborated in more detail the intermarriages that occur with the II, III, IV, V and VI main lines in the family of Johannes.

I-B-1 Elizabeth Freyenberger - B. - -1838 - Alsace
M. - -1855
D. - -1925

IV-A Christian Rupp - B. - -1827 - Germany
D. - -1900 - Fulton County

This is the first case of two main lines merging from Johannes Rupp lines, for Elizabeth married a first cousin once removed. Her husband, Christian Rupp, was a first cousin of her mother, Elizabeth Rupp.

Elizabeth, I-B-1, emigrated to Ohio in 1851 with her father. Her mother had died in Alsace. Elizabeth married Chris Rupp in 1855 and lived on a farm in the Pettisville area. Their first child, Fannie, died in infancy. Their second child, Eli Rupp (B. 9-3-1858) married Mary Reith who was born in Scotland. They had three children and lived in Fulton County.

The third son, John, had one daughter, Clara, but she had no children. The next child, Jacob, died in infancy. The 5th child was Magdalena. She married Joel Nofsinger, and they had three children. This family later moved to Chatworth, California. Their daughter Mabel married a cousin of mine, Francis Stuckey, who is on the Stauffer-Steiner family tree I published. They live in California. The 6th child was Leah who married Adam Walvogel. This branch lived in the Pettisville area. The next child, Daniel, died in infancy, and then came

Hannah Rupp. She married Menno Yaggy, and their four children grew up in Van Nuys, California, area.

Following Hannah was Catherine, the 9th child. She married G. D. Wyse of the Pettisville area, but this family, like so many in the I-B-1 branch is now scattered with addresses in Michigan, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, and Massachusetts.

The next child, Samuel, died in infancy. The 11th child was Mary who married William Weber of Pettisville. Their family was listed in that village.

The 12th child was Lydia who married John Yaggy, a brother of Menno. I recently contacted this branch in Fort Wayne. They should help in bringing records up to date.

The 13th child was Lewis Rupp (B. 12-20-1877). "Lou" Rupp was one of the cousins who worked faithfully in promoting the Rupp reunion. Lou's youngest daughter, Doris, married back into the I-A-9-2 line. The 4 children in Lou Rupp's family are scattered to other towns.

The 14th child was Christian Rupp (B. 11-2-1879) and he married Ella Lantz. Their five children have addresses in New York, Maryland, Michigan, and Indiana.

The 15th and youngest child was Elizabeth Rupp (B. 10-25-1881). She married Hiram Amstutz - and that is another name found chiefly in Amish-Menn. communities. They had one grandson, David Amstutz, who was a missionary to the Belgian Congo.

I-B-1, which is also IV-A, is one of the larger branches.
173 - (500)

I-B-2 Christian Freyenberger - B. - -1841
D.

Married Katherine Frey - B.
D.

This is a very large branch with much to be done to add the names of the 7th and 8th generations from Johannes Rupp. Christian was only 17 if he came to America on 3-30-1858. He married into a well-known Amish-Menn. family - the Frey family, who are well represented on Johannes Rupp charts. Their first child was Elizabeth (B. 1-11-1862). She is buried in Eckley cemetery, and so I assume that all of this branch were Amish-Menn. They had four children and all were last listed in the Fulton County area.

The second child was Rose, and she died at the age of thirteen. The third child was another girl, Lydia (B. 4-19-1869). She married David Burkholder, and they had seven children. One was a daughter, Eva (born in 1895) who was killed at the New York Central crossing in Archbold in 1918 along with two other cousins. I mention this because I believe the chief cause of violent death among descendants of Johannes Rupp was the N. Y. Central R.R. It may be surpassed today by auto crashes, but if some student would study the records of those in the Johannes Rupp line killed by trains in Fulton County, Ohio, he will find that it is a greater total than all who were killed in wars from 1860 to 1975. So, cousins, beware of buying stock in the New York Central.

The 4th child was Mary (B. 4-16-1870) who married Samuel Stuckey, and had four children - primarily in the Pettisville area. The next child, Joel, died as a youth. He was followed by Katherine (B. 4-16-1874) who married Leu Beck. Katherine had

John Freyenberger's passport when I last visited her. Their nine children are concentrated in areas not too far distant from Fulton County. One son, Edward, married Nina Krieger of the II-C-3-4 line.

Sarah was the 7th child (B. 4-8-1876). She married John Summers. Their two children were in northwestern Ohio. The 8th child was Lucy, born in 1878¹. Then came Hannah (B. 1-11-1880). She married Charles Smucker. This is a well-known Mennonite name that has gotten a lot of publicity from the spectacular success of Schmucker's jams and jellies of Orville, Ohio. Hannah had five children, chiefly in Fulton County.

199 - (This branch might go to 800 as families were large)

I-B-3 Katherine Freyenberger - B. 10-4-1844

D. 11-6-1916

IV-D Married Jacob Rupp, Jr. - B. 1-12-1834 - Rubendorff

" 9-8-1861

near Schaffhausen, Switz.

D. 12-3-1886

Here is the second intermarriage in two major lines on the Johannes Rupp tree. Katherine followed her sister's Elizabeth's lead in marrying a younger brother in the IV line. Thus both married a first cousin once removed, and at the same time making the I-B-3 and I-B-1 children double first cousins on both Rupp and Freyenberger branches.

Katherine had 12 children and the eldest was Benjamin Rupp (B. 8-19-1862). He married Lydia Steiner, and their six children were listed in Indiana, Illinois, Washington, Arizona, and California. Benjamin Rupp managed the Salem, Illinois, orphanage for many years. They represent a wide variety of occupations.

¹She was living at Fairlawn Haven in 1976 at 97 years of age.

Rachel, the second child, was born 1-10-1864 and married Joseph Egley. Their three children went west to Phoenix, Arizona, and Riverside, California, some years ago, and most of the I-B-3-2 line are in the far west.

Simon Rupp was born 3-5-1866 and married Rebecca Eicher. Their six children can be traced in Monroeville and Toledo, Ohio areas. One of their granddaughters, Margaret Rupp, married Art Berry, a radio and T.V. announcer in Toledo. The Simon Rupp family is widely distributed and lists a very wide range of occupations, but no farmers.

The next two children, Joseph and Catherine, died in infancy. Magdalena was the 6th child (B. 12-30-1875). She married W. O. Taylor, the well-known editor of the Archbold Buckeye. W. O. Taylor was a favorite speaker at the Rupp reunion, and he frequently said, "You Rups don't have to brag about belonging to the Rupp reunion because you were born into it, but I knew a good thing and I married into it." I am especially indebted to Orrin Rupp Taylor for his encouragement in this venture over the years. There will be a later chapter on Archbold.

Menno died in infancy, and Joel had no descendants. Emmanuel, the 9th child (B. 7-14-1878) married Emma Funkhauser and they had two daughters. One married a minister, and the other an evangelistic singer and they have been in many parts of the United States. I have had addresses from Florida to Arkansas - as well as India.

Hannah was born 9-21-1880 and she married Monroe Lantz. They had three children. After her death, Monroe remarried and

had seven more children. Most of the addresses I received were from Ohio or California. Monroe and Hannah's youngest daughter married Derek Eyres of England and lives in Richmond, Virginia. Earnest Gerig of Toledo might help in locating more of this family.

Mary, the 11th child, was born 8-18-1883 and married Peter Eicher. This branch is in the Ft. Wayne area, although all three of their children were born in India where they were missionaries.

Ezra, the youngest child, was born 9-8-1885, and he married Ada Meister. Ezra died 3-15-1965 in Inglewood, California. They were evangelistic singers and traveled all across the country, but spent some time in Dodge City, Kansas; Rome, Georgia; Shelby, N. Carolina; and other places. Orrin Taylor has names and addresses of most of the I-B-3 line.

192 - (350)

I-B-4 Joseph Freyenberger - B. - -1847
D. - -

Married Mary Schlatter - B.
D.

The youngest of the four orphaned children to emigrate to Ohio in 1858 was Joseph. He married Mary Schlatter and moved to Wayland, Iowa, where they had nine children.

The records on the I-B-4 line are very inadequate. I will list them in order with a brief comment as I know very little about this line.

Ella, the eldest, married Joseph Oswald. She had one son named Howard, and they lived in Aurora, Nebraska, years ago.

Anna, the second child, married Joseph Wenger. They had two children and were living in Wayland, Iowa.

Menno Freyenberger, the third child, married Mary Oswald,

a sister of Joseph. They had five children and a number of descendants that are probably concentrated in the Wayland, Iowa, neighborhood.

Sarah, the fourth child, married Harvey Schwartzentruber, and they are reported to have had three children and lived in Iowa. Mrs. Libbie Amstutz of Pettisville kept in touch with this family.

Christian Freyenberger, the fifth child, married Leah Wyse. They were reported as having one child plus two adopted children. They lived in Wayland, Iowa.

Katherine married Edward Wyse and had no children. Samuel, the next child, did not marry. Elmer, the 8th child, also married an Oswald, a sister of Mary and Joseph and had five children.

Albert, the ninth and youngest of the I-B-4 line, died young.
33 - (250)

I-C Michael Rupp - B. - -1815 - Orschweier, Baden
D.

Married Mary Gassman - B. 2-3-1834 - Hancock Co., Ohio
D. 1924

I will not try to carry the details on date of birth down to the 4th generation of Johannes except where I think it may be a clue to assist members of the family in locating an ancestor or in identifying persons with the same name, who are also on charts. Sometimes the only way to distinguish them is by date of birth - or name of spouse.

I-C-1 Jacobina Rupp - B. 10-19-1852. She was probably named after her aunt in Orville, Ohio. Jacobina married Charles

Hess and moved to Blunt, S. Dakota many years ago. They had two sons, Charles and George. George was a printer in Oneida, S. Dakota for a number of years.

I-C-2 Anna Rupp - B. 11-19-1854. She was born in Hancock County, Ohio, and died 5-21-1938 in Denver, Colorado. She married James Kulp and they had six children. The eldest child, Frieda, was born 5-8-1882 in Orville, Ohio. She married Percy Naylor and had 6 children. I had an address in 1940 at Port Huron, Michigan, and another notation for Agnes Louise Naylor from Oklahoma. I believe that the next two, Eva and Agnes, did not marry. Mark R. Kulp, the 4th child was born 10-28-1885 in Oceola, Michigan, and became a civil engineer in Moscow, Idaho. He may have left one child. Jay Kulp was born 9-17-1888 in Oberlin, Kansas, and later lived in Denver, Colorado. The youngest child was Glen (B. 10-18-1889) in Oberlin, Kansas. He was reported to have had two wives and four children.

I-C-3 Catherine Rupp, the third child, married Charles Reed. They had no children. I visited her about forty years ago, and she explained why her father was a son of John Rupp I and not his missing brother. Charles Henry the 4th child died in infancy.

I-C-5 Joseph Rupp was born 1-21-1861. He had one daughter, Josephine, who was a missionary. She remained single.

I-C-6 Mary Ellen was born 2-28-1863. She married Harry Hoffman. Their three children grew up in Blunt, S. Dakota. I recently contacted this branch, and their records were brought up to date. Fred Hoffman's children are scattered to Washington,

Montana, and Nebraska. Albert's five children are chiefly in North and South Dakota with jobs ranging from wheat farmer to head of the Physics Department at a state university.

I-C-7 Emma never married, but as long as she lived in Wauseon, she kept me posted on the family.

I-C-8 Alice Elizabeth was born 3-24-1869. She married Herbert E. McQuillen of Delta, Ohio. They had seven children, and their descendants are well represented in Delta today. Alice had one grandson killed in World War II. This is a big branch with many occupations.

I-C-9 Frank Rupp had one daughter, Alice, but she did not marry.

I-C-10 Louise Rupp, born 11-6-1874, married Kenzie Trowbridge. Their four children grew up in the Fulton Co. area.
180 - (400)

I-D Anna Rupp - B. 4-4-1818
D. 12-1-1887

Married Christian Brenneman - B. 9-19-1812
D. 2-8-1892

As mentioned earlier, Anna was the second of John Rupp I's daughters to be farmed out near Orville and Smithfield, Ohio. Magdalene, the first, married Jacob Schad. She had no children, but did help rear children that Jacob Schad had by a previous marriage.

Anna, likewise, married a widower in Chris Brenneman and

helped rear his children. She also had one child of her own, and that was Katherine who becomes I-D-1.

I-D-1 Katherine Brenneman (B. 5-12-1848) married Reuben Burkwalter. They had three children.

The first was Allen (B. 1-31-1869) who had one son. The second was Carrie (B. 12-20-1871) who married Robert Staley and had three children. The third child was Elmer (B. 3-11-1876). This family had four children and many grandchildren and were active in the Church of the Brethren near Smithville, Ohio.

Almost all of the descendants I have ever contacted in the I-D-1 line were located in northeastern Ohio in the towns of Orville, Smithville, and Wooster.

94 - (130)

I-E Joseph Rupp - B. 3-4-1819 - Baden
D. 9-2-1886 - Fulton Co.

Married Sarah Schrock - B. 1-23-1817
D. 6-27-1894

Joseph, like many of the early members of the Rupp family, is buried in the Lauber Hill Amish-Mennonite cemetery east of Archbold. Here you will find that there are no family plots. People were buried in chronological order of their death. They did not waste space. This method of digging each new grave next to the last burial place was much more sensible than I had realized. Everyone was related to some degree, and they were all members of one church family. No one deserved an ostentatious plot especially set off for them because they were more important.

All were equal when placed below the ground. Babies that died in infancy were placed in another part of the cemetery. This too saved space as the burial area for infants was much smaller than that of an adult person. In many ways the burial habits of the early Amish-Mennonites were more sensible than our more recent arrangements.

Joseph's family is so large that I have been forced to sub-divide the charts with separate charts for each great-grand-child as was done in the I-A and I-B lines.

I-E-1 Susan Rupp - B. 7-20-1844 - Fulton Co.
D. 12-29-1914 - Fulton Co.

Married Jacob Burkholder - B. 9-20-1841 - Henry Co.
D. 11-28-1882 - Fulton Co.

Susan and Jacob had eight children that grew to be adults. There probably were some that died in infancy, but I do not have that data. The eldest child was Katherine (B. 5-2-1861 in Henry County). She married John Wezkesser, and their five children lived in Pettisville area. The children of Mrs. Harry Burkholder or Mrs. Harry Pittenger should assist in completing this branch.

The second child, Sarah, married David Pollinger, and they had one daughter that died at age sixteen; so there are no descendants on this branch.

The third child was Samuel Burkholder (B. 8-24-1865) who married Elizabeth Cameron on January 2, 1890. They had nine children. I visited this couple at their home in 1939, and they were most proud of the fact that, of all their children and grandchildren and even a great-granddaughter, Peggy Jo Waldron (B. 11-6-1937), there had not been a single death in their family

in 49 years. Dr. Ord Burkholder (B. 2-23-1894), the third of the nine children and a well-known Toledo physician, was especially proud of that health record. Although older members were in the Amish-Mennonite church, the younger members may have had other church affiliation.

The fourth child, Mary Ann (B. 12-14-1867) married Ben Zimmerman of Wauseon, Ohio. They had seven children, chiefly in the Wauseon area.

The next child was Joseph (B. 8-21-1869) in Henry County. He married Lydia Miller. They had four children, but some of the family have moved elsewhere, for my last contact with the youngest daughter, Mary, was St. Louis, Missouri.

The sixth child, Elizabeth, married Henry Mull. They had eleven children, and their eldest son, Ora (B. 7-29-1894) of near Delta, also had eleven children.

The seventh child was Jacob who married Barbara Garber. It was reported that they had one adopted child, but I have no further record of this line.

The eighth and youngest was Andrew who married Emma Bernath. They had ten children. They are scattered, but many can still be located in Fulton and Lucas Counties.

187 - (400 to 500)

I-E-2 John J. Rupp - B. 12-20-1845 - Fulton Co.
D. 5-13-1915 - Fulton Co.

Married Anna Bucher - B. 9-23-1847
D. 8-27-1915

This family had seven children, but it is not so large as the I-E-1 branch.

Mary, the eldest, was born in 1874 in Fulton County and died in 1943. She married Rev. Abraham Sowers. They had four children, but some of the children and grandchildren are now located in states other than Ohio.

The second child, Moses, married Magdalena Wilhelm, but they had no children. Moses Rupp died 12-31-1966 near Kitchener, Ontario. The same is true of the third child, Sadie Rupp, born in 1878, who married James Ashley. She was still living in 1970 in Toledo, Ohio, and I had a talk with her via telephone even though she was past 90.

The fourth child, Emma, born in 1880 and died in 1959, married Jocelyn Upp, and they had two children and lived in Wauseon.

The fifth child, Ida, (B. 12-29-1882) married Dr. Robert Bernath and lived in Toledo. They had three children scattered from Toledo to Bryan, Texas, and Jamestown, New York.

The sixth child, John A. Rupp (B. 10-23-1886), was one of the active promoters of the Rupp reunion. He married Almeda Weber and her family records are recorded in the Fetzer book titled "One Man's Family" published by the Ann Arbor Press. Two of their sons were ministers in the Evan.-Menn. church.

Cora, the youngest, was born 1-1-1891 and married Clarence Steiner. They had five children and were located in Allen County, Ohio.

99 - (204)

I-E-3 Katherine Rupp - B. 12-7-1846
D.

Married David Rashley - B. 9-10-1852
" 5-9-1875 D.

The I-E-3 branch is small. Katherine bore seven children, but the second and fifth, Daniel and David, died before reaching maturity.

Emma, the first child (B. 8-6-1876) married Thomas Porter and had one daughter. Joseph, the third child, was born 1-18-1879. He married Sophia Goldsmith. The only other time the Goldsmith name has appeared is at the head of the Peter Rupp VI line. Joseph had four children and lived near Delta.

The fourth child was Sarah (B. 8-13-1880) and she married Irvin Rupp (B. 8-3-1877) who is on the VI-C-8 line. They had three children whose last address I have as Wauseon.

The sixth child, Lydia (B. 12-1-1885), married Frank Tompkins and they had three children. Two of them, Dale and Ethel (Mrs. Charles Brock) had Washington, D.C. addresses some years ago.

The youngest child, Elizabeth, married Clarence Ziegler. They had no children.

40 - (150)

I-E-4 Moses Rupp - B. 1-23-1855
D.

Married Anna Wezkesser - B. - -1858
D. 1929, buried in
Lauber Hill cemetery

Moses had eight children. The eldest was Sarah. She married Gideon Ruger and bore 4 children. After her death, Gideon remarried. This family will probably be found in an Amish-Menn. community.

The second child was Emma Elizabeth (B. 4-20-1885). She married Charles Ruger, a brother of Gideon, and they had 4 children. One branch was in Mendon, Ohio, one in Fayette, and two in Battle Creek, Michigan.

The third child was Will Rupp of Archbold. He married Lizzie Gottschall and they had seven children. Their second son, Irvin, married Irene Gerig of the V-B-3-1 branch. Many of Will's family should still be in the Archbold area.

The fourth son, Sam E. (B. 8-17-1889), married Vernie Bowman. They had six children, but most of this branch are in northwestern Ohio. The youngest son, Ray A. Rupp, has a large farm operation near Elmira.

Ida, the fifth child, married Harvey Graber, and they had thirteen children. The second, Evelyn, married into the I-A-7-4 line.

The sixth child, Menno S., married Edna Leu. They had four children. The 7th and 8th children, Moses and Anna (Mrs. Emory Sigg) had no descendants.

113 - (300)

The I-E-5 line died out with three names - Michael Rupp married Barbara Delger and their one daughter died in infancy.

I-F Christian Rupp - B. 3-1-1820
D. 1-30-1875

Married Margaret Kaufman - B. 8-28-1823
D. 8-30-1905

Chris was the first of the three sons of John Rupp I to settle in the Whitehouse area of Lucas County, Ohio. He is buried in the old Mennonite cemetery near Whitehouse as are most of the early members of the family that purchased land in Lucas County.

They had six children that have descendants.

I-F-1 Jacob C. Rupp - B. 10-9-1845
D. 10-6-1905

Jacob's first wife was Susan Stover. They had two children. Ella (Mrs. Elbert Richter) had two children that died young. Ferris died young. So the I-F-1 line has died out.

I-F-2 Marie Rupp - B. 12-28-1846 - Putnam Co., Ohio
D.

Married John Studer

This is a very large branch with twelve children and many of the descendants are concentrated in the Whitehouse or Toledo area. The eldest, Fred Studer (B. 12-13-1889), married Mary Detzert and they had ten children, almost matching the record of his parents.

Then came Peter who had one adopted child, and Amos who had no children. Peter lived in Houston, Texas, and Amos in California as last recorded on my charts years ago.

John, the 4th child, was born 7-16-1873 in Putnam County, and his seven children are probably well represented in the Toledo area today. Rosie, the fifth child, was born 11-22-1874 and married Jess Shufelt. They had eight children, and I had some addresses from Toledo as well as far away as Texas.

Anna, the 6th child, had two husbands but no children. Then came Margretha (B. 6-1-1879). She married Joseph Richter. Their three children located near Flint and Saginaw, Michigan. One address was Chesning, Michigan.

Lucy was next (B. 11-20-1880) and she married Harley Mahler and had three children. They may be in Bowling Green, Ohio, neighborhood.

Then came Eli (B. 3-8-1883), who married Irene Duncan and had four children. The family could still be represented in Toledo.

The tenth child was Frances (B. 9-5-1884) who married Etta Duncan. They are reported to have had three children and lived in Alamosa, Colorado.

Then came Katherine (B. 1-14-1887), married to Harvey Bucher of the Whitehouse Mennonite community. They had two children.

The twelfth, and last, child was Christian (B. 10-14-1888) who married Edna Alderson of Manchester, England - thus breaking the familiar pattern of marrying into other Mennonite family lines in northwestern Ohio. They had two daughters.

124 - (400)

I-F-3 Susan Rupp - B. 11-30-1848 and D. 1926 - and did not marry.

I-F-4 Catherine Rupp - B. 10-26-1850
D. 4-15-1927

Married August Koenigsecker - B. 6-16-1842 near
" 4-4-1873 Schaffhausen, Switz.
D. 6-2-1922

Early family records of this family were among the first I traced in the old Mennonite cemetery near Whitehouse. Their first, second, fourth, seventh, and ninth child died in infancy.

The third child and first to grow to manhood was Aaron (B. 1-3-1877 in Lucas Co.) who married Katherine Vogelmann. Their nine children are well known in Whitehouse as well as nearby cities.

The fifth child, Elizabeth (B. 8-28-1880), married Godfrey Myers and had one son, living in Toledo, Ohio. The sixth child, Mary Ellen (B. 10-2-1882), married Ulrich Steiner of Lima and had three children.

The eighth child, Katharine (B. 1-18-1887), married Ralph Tilton and had four children. The youngest child, Naomi (B. 11-21-1890) married Arthur Hollicker, and as far as my records show, there was one daughter.

53 - (250)

I-F-5 Elizabeth Rupp - B. 2-4-1852 - married Peter Richter, but they had no children.

I-F-6 Nicholaus Rupp was born 10-28-1853. He married Mary Richman of Maumee, Ohio. They had three children. I contacted this branch in 1940. One grandson was in Birmingham, Alabama. A grand-daughter, Mrs. Ralph (Gladys) Myers, lived in Toledo.

16 - (40)

I-F-7 John Rupp - B. 6-3-1856. He moved to Michigan about a century ago and was reported to have two children, one a daughter named Fannie Rupp who married a man named Thompson. There are only 3 names on this I-F-7 branch, but I will probably never find any further trace of this family.

I-F-8 and I-F-9 were Margaret and Christian who did not marry.

I-F-10 Peter Rupp - B. 1-10-1863 at Whitehouse, Ohio. He married Eliza Studer and had two children, but their daughter Emma (Mrs. Wm. DeLong) is the only one with children. The eldest was Mildred (Mrs. Albert Bucher) of Toledo.

17 - (50)

As you can see from the records of the separate branches in I-F, the present total of 218 names should go over 700 names,

but someone in the Toledo area will have to do the leg-work to finish a suitable tree for I-F for Christian Rupp and Margaret Kaufman.

I-G Nicholas Rupp - B. 5-8-1823 - Baden, Germany
D. 5-10-1894 - Lucas Co., Ohio

Married Susan Kraus - B. - -1835
D. 1919

Both are buried in the old Mennonite cemetery near Whitehouse. Nicholas was the second of John Rupp I's sons to clear land near Whitehouse. He had nine children, but only three have descendants living today.

I-G-1 Elizabeth - B. in 1855, D. in 1860

I-G-2 Anna - Married Lewis Amman but had no children.

I-G-3 Fannie Rupp - B. 7-13-1860 - Lucas Co.
D. 3- -1948 - Lucas Co.

Married Joseph Bucher - B. 1-7-1850 - Putnam Co.
D.

The I-G-3 is a large branch, for Fannie had thirteen children. Fannie had the family Bible with the vital statistics on their branch. The eldest, Ella (B. 10-14-1880), married Nelson Hostettler and moved to Ceylon, Saskatchewan, where they had four children. Most of this family is in Saskatchewan today although the youngest daughter, Myrna, married Joseph Patrick Derby and that is obviously not a Mennonite name such as her Hostettler, Bucher, and Rupp ancestors. Derby was in the Royal Canadian Air Force and was a native of Ireland.

The second child, Harvey (B. 8-18-1882 in Whitehouse) remained there and married Katherine Studer of the I-F line. They had two children.

The third child, Anna (B. 12-16-1883), married William Kinsey of Tiffin, Ohio. They had four children, and I had entries on their branch from Van Wert and Kenton, Ohio, as well as St. Louis, Missouri, and Taft, California.

The fourth child was Dan (B-12-21-1885) who married Clara Mallendick. They had 11 children, all born near Whitehouse, Ohio. I had excellent records on this branch up through 1954.

The 5th child, Samuel, died at the age of 30. He was single. The 6th child, John (B. 5-5-1890), married Fannie Weckerly of Whitehouse and had two children. The seventh child, Susie (B. 11-13-1891), married Albert Weckerly, a brother of Fannie. He was the postmaster at Whitehouse and had one child. The eighth child, Elmer (B. 12-21-1893), married Amanda Myers of Whitehouse. They had 5 children. The ninth child, Melvin (B. 7-28-1896), married Helen Stover, and they had two children. The next child, Joseph, did not marry. The eleventh and youngest child was Edith (B. 3-12-1904) who married Robert Rittenour. They had 5 sons, but two lost their lives in auto accidents, Louis in 1946 and Donald in 1950.

150 - (350)

I-G-4 Katherine Rupp - B. 5-5-1863 - married Rev. Fred Weicher. They had no children. I have not been consistent in my use of the title "Rev." My grandfather, Daniel Rupp, spent many years as a preacher in the Evan.-Menn. Church. He was titled "Rev." although he had no formal theological training in any institution. Fred Weicher was a Mennonite preacher in Hamburg, Ontario.

I-G-5 Daniel Webster Rupp - B. 5-31-1868 - shows the contemporary political influence with the introduction of the name Webster. Daniel married Mary E. Mossman who was born in Switzerland on 2-24-1876. Dan had the wanderlust and became a rancher near Bishop, California. Their 4 children all live in California. Fortunately, in recent years I have contacted this family and, like many of their cousins who have emigrated further west, they have become leaders in the community life of Inyo County and other parts of the valley.

68 - (75)

I-G-6 Susie Rupp - B. 1869 and D. 1874

I-G-7 John Rupp - B. 10-14-1873. He first married Anna Mossman, a sister of Mary. They had no children. After Anna's death, he married Lydia Rhora of Port Colly, Ontario. They had seven children.

John Nicholas Rupp, the eldest, was born 9-10-1898 in Whitehouse. He married Hazel Mayer and they had eight children, many of them located near Whitehouse, Ohio.

Fannie, the second child, married Bernard Hupwood, but they had no children. The third child, Daniel (B. 5-30-1902) married Emma Koder. Their two sons were living in the Swanton, Ohio, area.

The 4th child, Kathryn (B. 9-21-1905), married Harley Allison, and they had one son. The 5th child, Harvey Rupp (B. 1-24-1908), married Viola Koepfer and they had 3 children who may be in the Whitehouse area. The 6th child was Fred (B. 1-24-1908). He married Cleora Gallant and they had 4 sons.

The seventh child was Willis (B. 12-11-1911). He married Dorothy Coutcher, and they had 4 children.

72 - (150)

I-G-8 and I-G-9 A baby boy died in infancy in 1876, and a daughter, Ella, born in 1877, died in 1880.

I-H Jacobina Rupp - B. circa 1825 - Baden, Germany
D. 5- -1906 - Wayne Co. Ohio

Married David D. Kimberlin - B. circa 1820
" 10-8-1846 in D. circa 1850 on California
Wayne Co. Ohio Trail

As reported earlier in this book, this is one of the most dramatic life stories I have ever encountered. As late as 1970 I visited an elderly man in Orville, and he still had interesting recollections of "Aunt Bina" in her later years in Orville.

Aunt Bina was a "character" in Orville. She would smoke her clay pipe and tell the neighborhood children of her trip across the continent in the '49 gold rush and of life in early California. She died in May 1906 at the age of 81 and is buried in Crown Hill cemetery. In digging through old court records at Wooster, I learned that in her last years she had to be placed under care of a guardian as she was slightly "unbalanced". It is tragic to read that her children had to take such a step, for it may have embittered her.

David and Jacobina had three children.

I-H-1 The first, John, died as a very small boy just after they started on their trek west to California in 1849 or 1850. The Orville Courier has a story in the 3-11-1906 issue of the Kimberlin family.

I-H-2 Ella, the second child, was carried as a tiny baby from Ohio to California. Later she lived in a miner's camp in California and at about age five, she made the sea trip with her mother, Jacobina, from California around the Horn of South America, back to New York and then to Orville, Ohio. She married Allen Geisinger from that area, and they had 3 daughters and one son. They grew up in Orville where they had considerable musical talent and formed a singing trio. They attracted attention of the Keith Orpheum circuit and about 1905 they went on the stage. If radio or TV had been known then, they would have been nationally famous. They traveled as the Sisters De Faye. Their father died shortly before they went east, and their mother married an L. Alliman. The Orville Courier Journal had a short report on them 9-4-1906, but the girls had married and may have been married more than once. One reputedly married a French count and lived in Paris. Finally, in 1960 I located the eldest daughter, Daisy, who was now Mrs. Evelyn Shulz of Birmingham, Michigan. In the spring of 1961, on a return trip from Florida to Michigan, she stopped in Marietta to see me, but I was on an out-of-town trip. I wrote to her in Birmingham, but got no reply, and learned that she had died late in 1961 or early in 1962. After all my efforts to trace this Geisinger branch, it has frustrated me. I have called people with that name in a number of cities with no luck. If I had

spent as much time on other members of the Rupp family as I did on this small branch, I would have needed a staff and a small fortune. My best bet remains the Akron newspaper files, for it was reported that Ella Kimberlin-Geisinger-Alliman was killed in an auto accident in Akron in 1923. Only I learned that she had divorced Alliman and had a third husband at the time of her death.

I-H-3 David D. Kimberlin - B. 2-4-1851 - California
D. 2-12-1906 - Orville, Ohio

Married Alice Taggart - B. 7-12-1861
" 11- -1886 D. 10-29-1931

David was born in a California mining camp shortly after his father's death. He had the same travel experiences as his sister, Ella. But David settled down near Orville. I visited his sons Elmore and Howard on several occasions.

Elmore, the eldest, was born in 1883 and died in 1964. He remained single. Dean, the second son, was born in 1885 and married Louise Day. Louise had two children by a previous marriage but Dean had no children. He died in Huntington Park, California. Rollin, the third child, was born in 1890 in Hudson, Ohio. He lived in Montana and California and was married but had no children. Howard was born 4-28-1894 and married Eva Stinson. Their three children were in northwestern Ohio cities. Wayne, the youngest of David's sons, was born 1-10-1898. He married and had one daughter, Alice (Mrs. Howard Klein) of Norwalk, California.

The entire I-H branch is probably the smallest of all of the John I branches. I have 26 names on the chart, but I doubt if the total will reach 50 if we could locate them, which seems more and more a remote possibility with each passing year.

I-I (Number I, Letter I)

Jacob - B. 3-15-1827 - Orschweier, Baden, Germany
D. 6-3-1889 - Lucas County, Ohio

Married Barbara Kuebler - B. - -1828
D. 2-5-1896

The youngest of the ten children of John I cast his lot with his brothers Christian and Nicholas in the Whitehouse area. He also became one of the founders of the Rupp-Bowman medical supply house in Toledo. It was here that I learned that the younger members of the family had lost contact with their cousins. This branch had left the farm and moved to the city. They were no longer members of the Mennonite church. They did not marry back into other Mennonite families. They had become a part of the mainstream of suburban life.

Jacob and Barbara had 14 children, but only six have descendants today.

I-I-1 The eldest child was John (B. 9-8-1852) who married Millie Utz. As far as I know, their two sons, Walding and Paul, and their daughter, Bernice (Mrs. John Marlowe), lived in the Toledo Area when I contacted them about 1939.

I-I-2 George Rupp - B. 7-7-1854 - D. 7-23-1855

I-I-3 Samuel Rupp - B. 7-31-1855 - D. 10-8-1855

I-I-4 Then came David (B. 10-17-1856) who married Susie Blystone and had two sons. They lived in the village of Haskins, Ohio.

I-I-5 Then came Jacob (B. 10-28-1859) and he married Caroline Utz, a sister of John's wife. She died 6-18-1927 and

Jacob died 1-29-1943. Their 4 children were born in the Waterville area.

I-I-6 Nicholas Rupp - B. 1-1-1859 - D. 10-1-1860

I-I-7 George G. Rupp - B. 3-2-1860 - D. 7-13-1860

(Note that this George was given the same name as an older brother who died in 1858.)

I-I-8 Lena Rupp - B. 8-3-1861 - D. in 1954. She married Martin Fels who was born in Buffalo, New York, in 1857 and died in 1922 in Toledo. They had 3 children. A grandson, Dr. Robert Chapman, was a medical missionary in Ethiopia.

I-I-9 Rosina Rupp - B. 8-20-1863. She married Rev. Joseph Collie and they had 3 children. Rev. Collie was a 7th Day Adventist, and as far as I know, the first of that faith on the Johannes Rupp tree. The Collie family is widely scattered.

I-I-10 Martin Rupp - B. and D. 7-15-1865

I-I-11 Richard Rupp - B. 8-6-1866 - D. 11-27-1867

I-I-12 Barbara Rupp - B. 9-25-1867 - D. 11-27-1867

I-I-13 Elizabeth Rupp - B. 8-8-1869 - D. 8-8-1941

When I visited her about 1935, she was reluctant to give me any information. She was reported to have had three husbands, but I got the name only of the last one, Albert Fisher. I learned later that she had a son, David Rupp, who was a police officer in Detroit.

I-I-14 Mary Rupp - B. 2-1-1872 - D. 3-28-1872

In spite of Barbara's giving birth to 14 children, this is one of the smallest branches on the Rupp tree. I have 102

names on the chart and the total might go to 170. Thus, you can see the problems that develop when you allow an average amount of space for each branch, assuming that the number of progeny will about even up. Here I have John I-A with approximately 3400 names estimated on the chart, while for his younger brother, Jacob I-H, there are about 1/20th of that number.

CHAPTER XIII

Further Details on Joseph Roth - Barbara Rupp

Identified as Main Line Number II

In the chapter on Main Line Number I, the John Rupp line, many details were given in each sub-head under grandchildren and great-grandchildren of Johannes. In most cases the information was brought down to a point where any family historian would be able to outline the skeleton form of his or her particular branch.

That amount of detail will not be followed in discussing the main lines of Barbara and Magdalena who head the II and V lines. A major reason for this decision is that Barbara and Magdalena are almost six generations removed from many of their descendants now interested in the family records. They lost the Rupp name when they married, and as a result, the II branch is known as the Roth branch. It is so large in itself that this branch, with its interesting early background in the early part of the 19th century, deserves its own historian.

Nevertheless, I will outline the four main lines that developed in Fulton County from the four Roth orphan boys who were brought to America with their Rupp cousins. Their lives were often entwined with some of their Rupp cousins, so that this information will be of interest to some of the cousins who know these families.

For those tracing the Roth line, I recently received added information in 1974 from the archivist at Karlsruhe, Germany. His records show that Barbara Rupp was the daughter of Johannes Rupp of Orschweier (Haut-Rhin) Pres de Guebwiller and his wife,

Magdalena Wagler. Joseph Roth, Barbara's husband, was the son of Jean (John) Roth (B. 1721 and D. 12-17-1809) and his wife Anna Fritz (B. 1736 and D. 5-23-1800). They were married in 1763, and Joseph Roth was born in 1770 at Colrey-La-Grande. Joseph and Barbara were married 5-27-1803 at Chatenois (Bast-Rhin) Pres de Selestat.

After Barbara's marriage to Joseph, she moved from Orschweier, Baden, to Alsace to a spot on the Rhine where Joseph operated a mill. Here was born their first son, Joseph, 8-26-1804. Unfortunately, he died in Alsace as a small boy. Then came Henry, Jacob, Christian and Nicholas, all born in Alsace. It is believed that the parents were persecuted and that Joseph's mill was destroyed, but I could find no evidence in Europe to that effect. When the parents died, the older boys were young men in their twenties. I could not find their names on the ship lists, although it is believed that they traveled to Fulton County with their Rupp cousins circa 1834-1840.

II-A Henry Roth - B. 1- -1809 - Alsace
D. 5-3 or 6-28-1880 - Fulton County
Married Mary Aeschliman - B. ?
D. ?

Henry was the second child born to Barbara and Joseph, but he heads the II-A branch because Joseph (B. 1840) died in infancy.

II-A-1 Henry Roth died in infancy in Fulton County, Ohio.

II-A-2 Mary Roth married Joseph Schad. They moved to Williams County, and both are buried in Schiffler Cemetery at Pulaski. They had 2 daughters, Elizabeth (Mrs. Wm. Wineland), Mary (Mrs. Samuel H. Kaiser), and one son, Henry A. Schad, who

died 1-3-1854 in Bryan, Ohio. The II-A-2 branch has 98 names on the chart, but should be over 150 total today.

II-A-3 Barbara Roth died in infancy.

II-B Jacob Roth - B. - -1811
D. 2-22-1893 - Fulton County

Married Fannie Klopfenstein - B. - -1824
" 11-24-1842, Wayne Co. D. 1-28-1875 - Fulton Co.

The Wayne County marriage records indicate that Jacob may have remarried in Wayne County and worked for Mennonite farmers before moving out to Fulton County, where they had a large family of 13 children. Jacob and Fannie are buried in Johnson Cemetery near the Williams-Fulton County line.

II-B-1 Catherine Roth - B. 3-7-1844. She married Michael Weber and lived near Morenci, Michigan. I visited her in 1935, and she was well aware of the fact that her paternal grandmother was Barbara Rupp. Catherine had a Roth family Bible with many family entries on record. I am sorry that I did not have a tape recorder to record my long conversation with this remarkable lady who was then 91 years old. There are only 18 names on the II-B-1 chart, and the total may not go over 30.

II-B-2 Joseph Roth - B. 8-25-1846 - Died in infancy.

II-B-3 Jacob Roth - B. 9-12-1848 - Died in infancy.

II-B-4 Mary Roth - B. 11-19-1850. She married back into the Rupp family when she married Joel Rupp who heads the VI-F branch. Joel and Mary had eight children. From now on the II-B-4

and VI-F branches are identical. Mary died and was buried in Kansas. Joel married again to a widow named Stine and had two more children. So the VI-F branch will show two more children in that line. This story gets more complicated because Joel and Mary had a daughter, Jennie, B. 8-13-1883 - who married Enos Rupp (B. 9-2-1884). But Enos is already on I-A-3 line as reported in a previous chapter and will show up again on the IV-B-3 line.

32 - (100)

II-B-5 Henry Roth (6-11-1852) married Eliza Wakefield. Their daughter, Pearl, married Frank Chase of Muncie, Indiana; Alma married Harold Little of Tampa, Florida; and Anita married Guy Woodbridge. I located Anita in 1974 in Bartelsville, Oklahoma, where she has been a teacher of music and dramatics. This is a small branch of less than 25, but widely scattered.

II-B-6 Jacob Roth - B. 1-11-1854 - Died in infancy.

II-B-7 John Roth (B. 6-10-1855) married Ida Yalkee. They had 4 children, but only one, Austin Roth of Ohio City, Ohio, has any descendants.

II-B-8 Joseph Roth (B. 11-6-1857 and died in 1916). He married Anna-Lee-Etta Gibson of Portersville, Pa. They had no children.

II-B-9 Samuel Roth was born 8-23-1859 and married Ella Fidler in 1883. She was born 11-21-1865 in West Unity. They had six children and five have descendants in the Tedrow area of Fulton County and in Toledo. Their eldest child, Inez (B. 4-21-1884), married back into the Roth family when she married her second

cousin, Henry Roth of the II-D-1 line. Samuel and Ella were buried in Johnson Cemetery.

35 - (70)

II-B-10 Sarah Ann Roth - B. 2-26-1861 - died in infancy.

II-B-11 Nicholas Roth - B. 4-4-1862 - D. 8-19-1922 at Fayette, Ohio. He married Lida Cooney on 12-28-1877 in Fulton County. They had one son, Earl, but he had seven children who are widely scattered.

33 - (70)

II-B-12 Jacob Benjamin Roth - B. 1-3-1865. His first wife was Anna Cole and they had no children. His second wife was Nora Long and they had 6 children. Jacob died 2-22-1942 in Fayette, Ohio.

26 - (75)

II-B-13 Michael Roth was born 2-28-1866. He married Cora Augustine. They had 7 children and lived in Rising Sun, Ohio; Butte, Montana; and Devil's Lake, North Dakota. One son, Howard (B. 6-18-1898), did live in Cleveland.

16 - (50)

II-C Christian Roth - B. 11-18-1814 - Chatenois, Alsace
D.

Married Magdalena Burkholder - B.
D.

Robert Lutz, an amateur genealogist in Strasborg, France, showed me the information he had on the Roth family. His records indicated that the Roth home was in Chatenois. If Chris emigrated

in 1834, he was about 20 years of age. His marriage probably took place in Wayne County, Ohio. I have seven children listed on their chart.

II-C-1 Barbara Roth was born 10-30-1835. She married Jacob Layman (also spelled Lehman) on April 16, 1854. Jacob was born 7-6-1816 and died 11-15-1918. Barbara died 11-15-1918, and they are buried in Eckley Cemetery. They had 9 children. This is a very large family and they were members of the Amish-Mennonite Church.

192 - (400)

II-C-2 Catherine Roth was born circa 1837 and married Daniel Zimmerman. Both are buried in the old Lauber Hill Amish-Menn. cemetery. They had 8 children and 7 of them have descendants today, many in Fulton County. Some of them married back into the Rupp family such as Catherine's granddaughter, Ruth Jacobs (B. 3-11-1915) in Linawee County, Michigan, who married Delmar Rupp of the I-A-1-7 line.

85 - (400)

II-C-3 Anna Roth was born in 1841 and died in 1917. She married Sam Krieger from Pennsylvania in 1861. This branch was also active in the Lauber Hill Amish-Menn. church. Anna had a large family. One of her granddaughters, Nina Krieger (B. 1-27-1908) married Edward Beck of the I-B line.

94 - (300)

II-C-4 Susan Roth was born 7-21-1847 in Fulton County and married Andrew Myers on 1-27-1872. He was born 2-5-1847. Susan died 5-21-1930 and Andrew died 3-22-1935. Both are buried

in Lauber Hill cemetery. Of their 7 children, 6 have descendants and like all rural Amish-Menn. families, they are usually large. In recent years I note that younger members are getting more and more widely scattered. A few are marrying into non-Mennonite families and the size of the family is declining.

105 - (300)

II-C-5 Magdalena Roth was born 5-3-? - She married Sam Beaverson. They had 7 children and 5 have descendants. Their second child, Guy Roth Beaverson (B. 2-24-1874 in Henry County), married Adaline M. Weber. They have many descendants, and they are all listed in John Fetzer's book "One Man's Family" published by Ann Arbor Press in 1964. Many in this branch have gone into a variety of occupations and professions.

140 - (400)

II-C-6 Mary Roth - Left no descendants.

II-C-7 Christian Roth married Matilda Miller. Here is another member of Lauber Hill church. My records show only one child, Henry "Lump" Roth who married Bertha Renke. They had four children. One of their daughters married Jacob Spangler who was Superintendent of Schools in Archbold, Ohio.

17 - (75)

II-D Nicholas Roth - B. circa 1820
D. 1-25-1894

Married Margaret Gripliuier - B. 5-8-1821
D. 2-22-1871

This family lived in the Whitehouse area of Lucas County

and were active in the Whitehouse Mennonite church. They had nine children of whom eight have descendants.

II-D-1 Peter Roth, the eldest, was born 1-31-1842 in Lucas County and died 9-11-1913 in Lucas County. He married Elizabeth Layman on 4-2-1871. She was born 8-24-1843 and died 7-125-1923. They had 9 children that are widely scattered although many are in the Tedrow or Whitehouse areas. Elizabeth Roth, a granddaughter (B. 8-2-1913), was a teacher in Shelby, Michigan. For many years she kept family records. A son of Peter, Henry Roth, married Inez Roth of the II-B-9 branch.

86 - (160)

II-D-2 Mary Roth was born 2-27-1844 and died in 1912. Her first husband was Henry Hoffman. They were married 3-3-1878 and had no children. Her second husband was Christian Studer and they had no children.

II-D-3 Susie Roth - Died in infancy

II-D-4 John Roth - Died in infancy

II-D-5 Elizabeth Roth - Died in infancy

II-D-6 Nicholas Henry Roth was born 12-2-1855. He married Addie Stover 6-2-1877. Nicholas died 3-4-1900 and Addie 3-21-1924 (Whitehouse Menn. cemetery). They had 5 children and 3 have descendants.

30 - (70)

II-D-7 Margaret Roth was born 4-25-1858 and married Christian Bucher 12-24-1878. He was born 12-20-1855. Both are buried in Whitehouse Menn. cemetery. Margaret died 9-23-1923. She had 5 children. 36 - (100)

II-D-8 Jacob Roth was born 8-25-1860 and died 12-20-1940. He married Katie Decker 11-24-1886. They had one daughter (adopted), Grace. She married Floyd Wallboet. I do not know of any descendants in the II-D-8 line.

II-D-9 Philip Roth, the youngest, was born 5-18-1863 and died 10-26-1895. He married Mary Rhora 2-12-1885 and she died 4-26-1939. They are buried in the Shelby, Michigan, Menn. cemetery. They had 4 children, and their descendants are located primarily in southern Michigan.

24 - (70)

This ends the Roth family lines. My charts are available to any member of the family who wants to complete the Joseph Roth tree - or one of the four main branches representing the four sons of Joseph and Barbara. These charts will save them untold hours of work in locating relatives.

CHAPTER XIV

The Christian Rupp - Christina Stuckey Family

or Further Details on the III Line

Christian Rupp - B. circa 1791 - Orschweier, Baden, Germany
D. 1879 - Fulton County, Ohio

Married Christina Stuckey - B. circa 1800
D.

Christian and Christina were married in Baden or Alsace in a Mennonite service. They left Alsace, via Mulhouse to the port of Havre, France, and reached New York on the ship L'Edmund on May 19, 1834, with their one son and four daughters. In one of my early records, Christian's wife was listed as a Byer, but this must have been an error.

III-A Christian Rupp - B. 1827
D. 1906

Married Magdalena Roth - B. 1826
D. 1900

They were probably married in Fulton County about 1850 in a Mennonite service. They had seven children who have descendants today.

III-A-1 Jonas Rupp - B. 3-31-1853 - Fulton County
D. 4-3-1909 "

Married Magdalena Nofsinger - B. 1860 - Fulton Co.
D. 11-4-1924 "

This family joined the Evan. Menn. church. They had 13 children who are widely scattered. One son, Rev. David C. Rupp, was a missionary in Africa. One branch went to Morenci, Mich. Another went to Phoenix, Arizona, and several to Ft. Wayne, Ind. A daughter, Mada, married back into the I-A-4 line. This Jonas

Rupp family had good records for longevity, for six of Jonas' children were living in 1969. The grandchildren in this III-A-1 branch are one of the most widely scattered of all of the Rupp families. 69 - (250)

III-A-2 Jonathan Rupp - B. 8-28-1855
D. 4-27-1928

Married Elizabeth Nofsinger - B. 10-13-1857
D.

The spelling of this Nofsinger name has so many variations that I am never sure which version of the spelling is preferred by various branches of the family. Jonathan had six children, and many of their descendants are in Fulton County. Their third child, Noah C. Rupp (B. 11-23-1888), married Esther Rupp of the I-A-3 and IV-B-3 lines. Their son Dale and grandson Franklin also married back into Rupp lines.

72 - (150)

III-A-3 Amos Rupp - B. 2-5-1858
D. 9-11-1934

Married Elizabeth Short - B. 1-11-1859
D. 2-3-1920

This family had three children, but most of the descendants are in the Carrie Rupp and Harvey King line. Carrie died 1-12-1962 and Harvey died 3-10-1968 in Fulton County.

41 - (140)

III-A-4 Mary Rupp - B. 9-1-1887 - Fulton County
D. Allen Co., Ind.

Married Joseph Klopfenstein - B. Allen Co., Ind.
D. Grabil, Ind.

This family had 8 children, most of them located in the area of Grabil, Indiana. 30 - (150)

III-A-5 Jeff Rupp - B. 6-25-1860 - Fulton County
D. 1972

Married Mary Miller

They had seven children, and some of the family are still in Fulton County, although this branch has scattered.

44 - (100)

III-A-6 Magdalena Rupp - B. - Fulton Co.
D.

Married Jonathan Gerig

They had two children. Their eldest daughter, Osie, married Adam Britsch of Pettisville. I have but 11 names on this chart, but this branch is very small.

III-A-7 Daniel S. Rupp - B. 11-26-1866
D. 3-16-1955

Married Katherine Schlabach - B.
" 1896 D. 1-1-1929

They had seven children, and their grandchildren are scattered from Florida to California. I have a fairly good record on this branch, for I have tried to keep in touch with some of them. Daniel Rupp owned the oldest Bible in the Rupp family. It is dated 1556.

I have 82 names on this chart with addresses for Florida, Georgia, Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, and California. However, the III-A-7 branch is virtually complete.

III-B Christina Rupp - B. 1829
D.

Married Jacob King - B.
D.

There is a discrepancy on Christina's records that I cannot

explain. The ship list in 1834 lists her age as 5. However, the 1860 Fulton County census would push her date of birth back to 1822. I have a complete absence of dates of birth on any of Christina's children or on her husband. This is an Amish-Menn. branch that is very incomplete.

III-B-1 Christian King (No dates)

Married Jacobina Rich (No dates)

They had 7 children and some are in the Wauseon area.

16 - (60)

III-B-2 Barbara King

Married Dan J. Sauder

Dan died in 1921 and is buried in Eckley cemetery. They had 10 children, but many are in Fulton County. A granddaughter, Lucretia, married Laurence Rupp of the I-A-5 branch.

107 - (350)

Erie Sauder, founder and driving force back of Sauder Museum, can help in locating this branch.

III-B-3 Daniel King (No dates)

Married Martha Beck

They had seven children and many descendants. Some of this family joined the Dunkard church. The family is centered in Fulton and Henry County, Ohio, and in Napanee, Indiana.

117 - (350)

III-B-4 Joseph King (No dates)

Married Katie Stutzman

They had one son, Jacob, and he had a son John who was an

electrical engineer in Pittsburgh. This is a change in the format when compared with III-B-3. I have only 4 names on this branch, and the total is probably less than ten.

III-B-5 Elizabeth King - B. 10-12-1860 - Fulton County
D.

Married Samuel Beck - B. 11-3-1859
" 3-30-1882 in Fulton Co.

This one birth date on Elizabeth leads me to believe that the birth date of her mother is more apt to be 1829 than 1822.

This family had 7 children. They were Amish-Mennonite. Simon and Emanuel settled near Leo, Indiana. This is a big family. Orland Grieser, author of "Out of the Wilderness", is in this line. A grandson, Irvin Beck, taught at Goshen College.
226 - (500)

III-B-6 Fannie King (No dates)

Married Daniel Beck

This family was Amish-Menn. They had 9 children and are represented today in Tedrow and Pettisville areas.

21 - (200)

III-B-7 Christina King (No dates)

Married Joe B. Short

Christina was Joe's second wife. He had 6 children by his first wife and 5 by Christina. Many are in the Archbold area. Their youngest son, John Short, married Martha Wyse. They had 16 children which should be ample proof that intermarriage with closely related blood lines does not decrease the fertility of the clan.

15 - (200)

III-C Anna Rupp - B. 9-21-1828
D. 5-10-1924 - Eckley Cem., Fulton Co.
Married John Wyse - B. 12-11-1821 - Bern, Switz.
D. 4-9-1884 - Fulton Co.

They were married 9-18-1857 in Fulton County. Anna's birth date does not tally exactly with the ship list which lists her as 3 years old in 1834. I am inclined to think that her date of birth is 1831 instead of 1828. In any case, she lived to a ripe old age. Anna had 7 children, but only 5 have descendants.

III-C-1 Magdalena Wyse - B. 7-6-1858 - Fulton County
D. 9-19-1922 - "

Married Levi Lantz - B.
D. - Arkansas

They had 3 children. A daughter, Ida, married Samuel King of Henry County. Levi married Alice _____, and lived near Fayette. Mary married Reuben Sloninger and moved to Michigan. I have no further records on this branch.

10 - (100)

III-C-2 Fannie Wyse - B. 12-20-1859

Married Stephen Luthy

This couple separated after having two children, Anna and John. Anna married Ernest Leininger of Archbold.

5 - (50)

III-C-3 Sarah Wyse - B. 6-15-1862
D. 6-5-1928

Married Isaiah Zaehr

This family settled near Elmira and had 5 children. Some of them married back into Amish-Menn. families such as Yoder and Short. This is a large branch with no entries in over 40 years.

12 - (150)

III-C-4 Samuel D. Wyse - B. 1-4- ?
D. 8-22-1930

Sam did not marry and this chart has no further entries.

III-C-5 Katherine Wyse - B. 9-25-1864 - Fulton County
Married Moses Stutzman - B. 4-3-1861

They were married in Fulton County on 3-22-1885. I visited this family about 1928 and had a long conversation with them concerning the split between the Amish-Menn. and Egli Menn. (Evan.-Menn.). I have but 22 names on their chart, but it could go well over 150 today. Moses Stutzman had an old family Bible with some records in it. The Moses Stutzman barn has been moved to the Sauder Museum one mile north of Archbold.

III-C-6 John Wyse - B. 9-11-1869 - He did not marry.
D. 10-5-1930

III-C-7 Jonas Wyse - B. 2-48-1874

Married Sarah Trout of Delta, Ohio.

They had 4 children. Viola married Otis Runyan and moved to Pioneer. Richard lived in Swanton.

8 - (100)

III-D Magdalena Rupp - B. circa 1833 - Alsace
D. 2- -1916 - Fulton County

Married Moses Burkholder - B. 10-26-1837 - Wayne Co.
D. 12-21-1881 - Eckley Cem.

III-D-1 Moses Burkholder - B. 1-4-1862 & D. 1862 - Henry Co.

III-D-2 Barbara " (Twins) " " "

III-D-3 Mary Burkholder - B. 1864 and D. 1866 - Henry Co.

III-D-4 Jonathan Burkholder - B. 9-26-1866 - Henry Co.
D. 1-21-1946 - Fulton Co.

Married Emma Baer - B. 2-19-1869
M. 9-27-1888 - Henry Co.
D. 5-18-1947 - Fulton Co.

Six of the children in this family died in infancy. Some are buried in Aeschliman and some in Def. Men. cemeteries east of Archbold. Five children have descendants in Fulton County today.

101 - (175)

III-D-5 Christian Burkholder - B. 10-13-1867 - Henry Co.
D. 2-23-1955 - Fulton Co.

Married Clara Bell Childs - B. 12-3-1870 - Wayne Co.
M. 11-8-1900 - Fulton Co.
D. 2-26-1963 - "

Clara had been married and divorced from Otto Henry Schlegel. They had one child, Ella Mae, B. 7-20-1894, that was adopted by Christian Burkholder. Clara then had three children by her marriage to Christian Burkholder. Mrs. Joseph P. Healey of Cortland, N.Y., has kept up records on their branch. I found no Mennonites but a number of the Catholic religion in their line. There were 33 names in 1960 and probably a dozen names could added since that date.

III-D-6 Christina Burkholder - B. 7-26-1869 - Henry Co.
D. 3-5-1955 - Lauber Hill Cem.

Married Joseph Eicher - B. 6-8-1863 - Fulton Co.
D. 3-21-1921 - "

They had 10 children, but only 5 have descendants. My last entries on their chart were in 1957 when I had 100 names. The family is scattered and is of diverse religious affiliation. Although Joseph and Christina were Amish-Menn. and opposed to war, I noted that one of their grandsons, Archie E. Eicher, was killed in the landing at Iwo Jima March 13, 1945. It is rare to find a descendant of Johannes Rupp who was "killed in action".

III-E John Rupp - B. 10-12-1831

D. 1915 - Eckley Cem.

Married Mary Sauder - B.

D. 1924 - Eckley Cem.

It is reported that John was born in a Mennonite home either in Pennsylvania or Ohio while en route from Europe to Ohio. The location was probably in a friendly home in Wayne County, Ohio. John and Mary's first child was dead at birth. Then followed five more children.

III-E-1 Barbara - B. 3-4-1860 She did not marry.

D. 7-5-1934 - Buried in Eckley Cem.

III-E-2 Mary - Died in infancy.

III-E-3 Emma was the first of the family to marry. Her husband was Aaron Gerig. They lost two babies in infancy. Later they adopted a child, but I have no record of any kind on that child. III-E-3 may have died out.

III-E-4 Menno Rupp - B. circa 1870

Married Emma Gould

They had 4 children. I had only 18 names on their branch, chiefly from Fulton and Lucas Counties. It is a very small branch and may not have even 50 names on it. Their daughter, Ilva, married back into the I-E line. Her first husband was Wilson Burkholder.

III-E-5 Enoch Rupp - B. 6-4-1873

Married Mary Rebeau - B.

I visited Enoch when he was "up in years" and he told me that in his entire life he had "never slept away from home". That is in decided contrast to one of our sons who has lived on four major continents.

Enoch had 3 daughters, one of whom, Viola, worked in a bank in Archbold. I have only 9 names on this branch, but the total may not be 30.

III-F Barbara Rupp - B. 1841
D. 1921

Married Joseph Steinman - B.
D. 1901

They are buried in Def. Menn. cemetery east of Archbold, sometimes known as "the Rupp cemetery". They had 5 children but only two have descendants.

I should note that originally I had listed Elizabeth Rupp as III-F. But she did not marry, and so I did not construct a separate chart for her.

III-F-1 Jacob Steinman - B. 1868 - D. 1948 - Did not marry.

III-F-2 Elizabeth Steinman - B. 1870 - D. 1958 - " "

III-F-3 Nancy Steinman. She married Henry Heer of Evansport. They had one son, Eldon. Tragedy hit their home when he drowned in a nearby river. No other children were born to this couple.

III-F-4 Fannie Steinman married George Miller. Their first child died in infancy, but the next four have descendants in Fulton County.

10 - (40)

III-F-5 Anna Steinman married Fred Schroeder. They had six children in the Archbold area.

10 - (25)

CHAPTER XV

Jacob Rupp - Magdalena King Branch

Further Details on the IV Line

Jacob Rupp - B. circa 1801 - Orschweier, Baden
D. 1875 - Allen County, Ohio

Married Magdalena King - B. circa 1805 - Baden, Germany
D.

Jacob and Magdalena lived on farms that were not too many miles apart. The Rupp and King families were very close to each other. They probably were married about 1825. Six of their children have descendants.

IV-A Christian Rupp - B. 1827 - Orschweier, Baden
D. 1900 - Fulton Co., Ohio

Married Elizabeth Freyenberger - B. 1838 - Alsace
(I-B-1 branch) M. 1855 - Fulton Co.
D. 1925 - Fulton Co.

I am not repeating the data on this line as it is reported in Chapter XII on the I-B-1 line. As Chapter XII indicated, the 173 names on this chart are probably only a third of the total if brought up to date.

IV-B Barbara Rupp - B. 12-18-1828 - Orschweier
D. 6-11-1872

Married Peter Aeschliman - B. 2-6-1824 - Alsace
D. 11-27-1890

This family had 13 children. Peter died in an accident not common in this century. He was killed by a falling tree while cutting timber.

IV-B-1 Christian Aeschliman - B. 5-3-1849 - Fulton Co.

His first wife was Katherine Shamback and they had two sons. His second wife was Marie Martin and they had five children, many in the Pettisville area.

29 - (75)

IV-B-2 Catherine Aeschliman - B. 4-26-1850 - Fulton Co.
D. 6-22-1910 - Aeschliman Cem.

Married Christian Miller - B. 2-18-1846 -
Schaffhausen, Switz.
D.

They had 4 children and the first two daughters, Sarah and Ida, married into the I-A-2 line of Dan and Edward Rupp.

70 - (140)

IV-B-3 Magdalena Aeschliman - B. 8-18-1851 - Fulton Co.

Married John "Hans" Rupp - B. 12-8-1848
I-A-3

"Hans" had three wives and Magdalena was his second wife. He was a second cousin of Magdalena; so their descendants are on the I-A-3 line too. Their daughter, Esther, married back into the III-A-1 line of Noah Rupp. Their son, Dale Rupp, married Veronica Rice, also on a Rupp line.

But Esther was not the only one of the IV-B-3 line to marry back into the Rupp family. Enos Rupp (B. 9-2-1884) married Jennie Rupp who is also on II-B and VI-F lines.

IV-B-4 Barbara Aeschliman - B. and D. in 1853

IV-B-5 Joseph Aeschliman - B. 1854 - D. 1923 - No descendants.

IV-B-6 Veronica Aeschliman - B. and D. in 1856

IV-B-7 Jacob Aeschliman - B. 3-26-1858. His first wife was Louise Turney. They had 3 children. I have no record of any descendants by his second wife.

7 - (25)

IV-B-8 Elizabeth Aeschliman - B. 3-6-1860. She married Eli Rupp of the I-A-8 line and had no children.

IV-B-9 Mary Aeschliman - B. 12-15-1861, married Seth Rupp of the I-A-10 line. Mary was the third Aeschliman girl to marry a Rupp.

14 - (25)

IV-B-10 Peter A. Aeschliman - B. 12-15-1863. He married Ollie Gibbs. They had one daughter, but she has no descendants today.

IV-B-11 Simon Aeschliman - B. 11-26-1865 - Single

IV-B-12 Caroline Aeschliman - B. 10-8-1867 - Single

IV-B-13 Lovina Aeschliman - B. 11-22-1869. She married Gideon Ziegler on 12-25-1893. The family is scattered. They left the farm, and several were lawyers in Cleveland, Ohio.

IV-C Fannie Rupp - B. 8-31-1832 - Baden
D. 8-31-1881

Married Levi Lantz - B. 1832
D. 1928

They had 10 children.

IV-C-1 Mary Lantz was born 8-20-1856. She married David Nofsinger. They had 5 children and three had descendants in Pettisville and in Wabash, Indiana.

21 - (100)

IV-C-2 Jacob Lantz - B. 1857 - D. 1869

IV-C-3 Eli Lantz - B. 11-27-1859. He married Mary Rupp (B. 12-25-1862) of I-A-9 line.

118 - (200)

IV-C-4 Magdalena Lantz - B. 12-13-1861. She married David Klopfenstein on 6-16-1887 and they had seven children. Many will be found in Grabil, Indiana. There were several David Klopfensteins, but this one was known as "Sorghum Dave".
79 - (150)

IV-C-5 Christian Lantz - B. 8-7-1863. He had no descendants.

IV-C-6 Daniel Lantz - B. 10-11-1865. He married Anna (?). They had 2 sons. Harold drowned as a child. I contacted people in Spokane who knew Rev. Daniel Lantz, an evangelist. It is probable that this line has died out.

IV-C-7 Joseph Lantz - B. 10-20-1869 - married Rose Slaughter and had 4 children. They were Phoebe, Rhoda, Jesse, and Reuben. Joseph was a traveling evangelist who was last heard from in Great Falls, Montana. I wrote a letter to the editors of several papers in that area, and by good luck, I located Mrs. Phoebe Bergstrom of this Joseph Lantz family. She brought the records up to date and gave me the names of all 27 who are now on the IV-C-7 branch.

IV-C-8 Hannah Lantz was born 8-21-1867. She married William Brindley. Brindley had 5 children by a former wife but none by Hannah. The family lived in Swanton, Ohio.

IV-C-9 Sarah Lantz was born 8-13-1871. She married Sam Gehring of Delta, Ohio. Sam had one daughter by a previous marriage, but none by Sarah.

IV-C-10 Levi Lantz was born in 1872 and died in 1928. He was buried in the Aeschliman cemetery. But Levi left a puzzled tale. He went out west as a young man and was reported to have

married and had a family "out west". When I tried to learn more of his life in the west, I discovered that no one wanted to talk about it. I still wonder what happened "out west".

IV-D Jacob Rupp, Jr. - B. 1-12-1834 - Orschweier, Baden
D. 12-3-1886 - Fulton

Married Katherine Freyenberger - B. 10-4-1844 - Alsace
I-B-3 D. 11-6-1916

The IV-D and I-B-3 branches are identical as Katherine was a first cousin once removed of Jacob. See I-B-3 for details.

IV-E Magdalena Rupp - B. 12-16-1835 - Baden
D. 3-27-1903

Married Peter Gerig - B. 4-24-1842
D. 11-12-1918

They had seven children. Many of their family are in the Fort Wayne, Indiana area. Some of them were members of the Missionary Church, another off-shoot of the Mennonite church.

IV-E-1 Rachel Gerig - B. 8-5-1867, Allen County, Indiana, and died 8-22-1898. She married Henry Yaggy on Nov. 22, 1887. Henry was born 8-19-1867 in Allen County, Indiana, and died in Ft. Wayne in 1966 at the age of 99. He is not a descendant of Johannes, but he is the oldest member on the family tree. Rachel had 4 children but the eldest, Ezra, is the only one with descendants.

IV-E-2 Eli Gerig was born 1-8-1869 in Allen County and died 2-13-1946. He married Caroline Sauder on 11-6-1892. She was born 4-12-1871 and died 4-21-1928 in Grabill, Indiana.

They had 8 children and 6 have descendants today. I completed most of their chart on a trip to Ft. Wayne in 1969. I found many teachers in this family.

IV-E-3 Magdalena Gerig was born 4-17-1870 and died 1-10-1916 in Bluffton, Ohio. She married Paul Steiner on 7-31-1893, a brother of Noah Steiner who also married into the Rupp line. Paul was born 12-10-1867 and died 6-12-1939. After Magdalena's death in 1916, Paul married Hannah Gerig, a first cousin once removed of his first wife. Paul and Magdalena had 7 children and 5 have descendants. Some of the children attended Taylor University or Ft. Wayne Bible Institute. One son, Ezra P., married back into the I-A-1-1 line.

IV-E-4 Noah Gerig was born 10-4-1871. He married Sevilla Shanebeck on 12-3-1897. She was born 3-19-1871 and died 6-11-1930 in Dakota. They had seven children, and the eldest, Ezra, became a radio evangelist. This is a large family and I have the records to 1952. Many are in Bismarck, N. Dakota although the Jesse Ringenberg family remained in Ft. Wayne.

IV-E-5 Susan Gerig was born 10-11-1875 in Grabil, Indiana, and died 12-29-1951. She married Noah Steiner on 1-6-1895. Noah was brother of her sister's husband. He was born 1-18-1873 and died 8-15-1948. They had 11 children, but 4 died in infancy. Five of the seven that remained became teachers. Many of this branch were in the Evan. Menn. church. The family is scattered today.

IV-E-6 Sarah Gerig - B. 12-14-1876 - Single

IV-E-7 Rose Gerig was born 9-24-1881. She married Abraham H. Steiner on 11-24-1907. He was born 2-25-1884 and died 10-8-1952.

They had one daughter who married Walter D. Kimes of Spencerville, Indiana.

I have 329 names on all of the IV-E lines. It was fairly complete, and I doubt if more than 100 names would be added to all branches on the IV-E chart.

IV-F Joseph Rupp - B. 6-14-1840 - Ohio
D. 4-5-1911 - Reno Co., Kansas

Married Magdalena Gerig - B. 11-26-1848 - Alsace
" 5-22-1865 D. 6-24-1931 - Sterling, Kansas

They had but 3 children, but had many descendants when I last worked on their chart in 1938. Many were in the Sterling, Kansas, area.

IV-F-1 Noah G. Rupp, B. 7-7-1875 - Fulton. He married Fannie Albright of Adams County, Indiana, on 12-10-1896. She was born 8-13-1875. They moved to Oklahoma and then to Sterling, Kansas, and had three sons. Records are complete to 1940.

IV-F-2 Sarah Rupp was born 12-13-1878 at Pettisville. She married Henry Engbrecht on 5-22-1902. Henry was born in Germany in 1877. They moved to Sterling, Kansas, and had five children. They have many descendants in that area. In 1940 Sarah had Jacob Rupp IV's family Bible plus other family records.

IV-F-3 Emma Rupp was born 10-14-1885. She married Richard Engbrecht, a brother of Henry, on January 20, 1903. They moved to Kansas and had 7 children. Records on this family are complete to 1940.

IV-G and H What happened to Maria Rupp (B. 1843) and Elizabeth Rupp (B. 1846), the youngest children of Jacob Rupp and Magdalena King who head the IV branch? They are shown in the 1850 and 1860 census. Did they die just at reaching maturity? Did they remain single? Did they marry and were their whereabouts lost to other members of the family?

CHAPTER XVI

The Magdalena Rupp - John King Line or Further Details on the V Line

Magdalena Rupp - B. circa 1803 - Orschweier
M. circa 1825 - Alsace or Baden
D. 6-12-1898 - Fulton County

Married John King (Koenig) - B. circa 1799 - Baden
D. Feb. 1864 - Fulton

The children of this marriage are double first cousins of the IV branch of Jacob Rupp and Magdalena King. In the early history of the V branch, many remained in the more conservative Amish-Menn. church, and most of them lived in or near Fulton County. This V branch should have their own biographer, for most of these people do not know that they are on the Johannes Rupp tree. A John King documentary would read much like the Johannes Rupp story in that early history is centered around Amish-Menn. church in northwestern Ohio and is centered around rural farm life. With the dispersal of the family to other cities and other occupations, we see many of the same changes that occurred in the Rupp family.

For those who want to trace the King family one generation back, you will find information in Karlsruhe archives as follows: "Also living in 1820 in Emmingen near Egg (County Donaueschingen) was the Mennonite, Jacob K nig, born in Himburg, 47 years old, with his wife Anna, born R tinger, 35 years old, and the children, Jacobina, Magdalena, Anna, Daniel, Jakob, and Elizabeth. Of these persons only the youngest child, Elizabeth, is registered in the birth records of 1819 of the Catholic community, Emmigen. With this family lived a servant, Christian Rupp, born in Orschweier,

29 years old." (This Christian heads the III branch, and the Magdalena listed above married Jacob Rupp who heads the IV line. John King (B. 1799) was probably an older brother who had left the family home by 1820.

Our John and Magdalena (Rupp) King, the V branch, had six children - Christian, Elizabeth, Anna, Daniel, Barbara and Joseph. But strange to say, I can only find descendants for the first three. This bothers me, for it is very unusual for a married Amish couple to be childless. For example, the 4th child in this family was Daniel King, born 8-6-1838 in Wayne County, Ohio. He married Barbara Krouse, born 11-24-1840. They are reported to have had one son, Daniel King, who died in infancy. He is buried in Aeschliman cemetery. Daniel King died 4-24-1929 and his wife Barbara died 4-22-1918. Both are buried in Aeschliman cemetery. I have never found any record of any other children to this family, but to my surprise I learned that Daniel King was a Civil War veteran. If so, he must have left the Amish-Menn. church, even though he is buried in the Aeschliman cemetery. This is something I cannot explain, for he must be the only Civil War veteran who was a descendant of Johannes Rupp.

The fifth child on the V branch was Barbara King, and she married Christian Krouse, believed to be a brother of Daniel's wife, Barbara. They too are buried in Aeschliman cemetery, but I have never found a record of any children in this family.

The youngest child in the V branch was Joseph King who married Mary Brodbeck. I thought for a time that he had a large family until I learned that Mary Brodbeck was first married to a

man named Leininger and had a number of children by him. When he died, she married Joseph King. The children kept the Leininger name after she married King. One of the girls married Darley Beck and lived in Paulding, Ohio.

John King was one of the pioneers to Fulton County. He held the first deed issued at Elmira, three miles north of Archbold. He is probably a brother of the Nicholas Koenig who settled in Fulton County in 1835.

V-A Christian King - B. 4-6-1827 - Near Basel, Switzerland
D. 5-29-1911 - Aeschliman Cem.

Married Salome Sauder - B. ?
D. 5-27-1854

Married Mary Moser - B. 2-5-1837 - Mulhouse, Alsace
D. 12-18-1917

Christian King was born near Basel, Switzerland. His first wife was Salome Sauder. She had one child, Joseph, born in 1853. Salome died 5-27-1854, probably due to childbirth. She may have been buried in the old Wyse cemetery. Christian's second wife was Mary Moser, listed as Maria Müsser in some records. They had 10 children, and 6 have descendants living today. Maria was born at Mulhouse, Alsace. She died in Fulton County and is buried in Aeschliman cemetery.

V-A-1 Joseph S. King was born 3-12-1853, Fulton County, and died 7-29-1915 in Fulton County. He married Ella Burr on 7-13-1880. She was from Sandusky County. They had two sons. The eldest, Edward, married Ida Rupp in the I-A-3 line. Ida had nine children by her first husband, Ollie Smith, but had no children by Edward.

The second son, Freeman, had a daughter, Frances King, who also married into the I-A-3 line when she married William Hutchison. Many of this branch are now living near Ravenna, Ohio.

17 - (45)

V-A-2 Elizabeth King - B. 3-15-1857 - D. 1-30-1870. She was the first child of the second wife, Mary Moser.

V-A-3 John King was born 1-28-1859 in Fulton County. He married Addie Kellar and they had one son, Clarence. Clarence had two sons who moved to Worcester, Massachusetts.

7 - (22)

V-A-4 Dave King was born 9-7-1860 in Fulton County. His first wife was Elizabeth Stutzman. They were divorced at Kinsman, Ohio. They had one son, Roy, who died in infancy. Dave remarried, but I do not know the name of his second wife.

V-A-5 Magdalena King was born 3-9-1862 and died in 1941. She is buried in the Pettisville cemetery. She married Eugene Dunbar of Delta, Ohio. They had no children.

V-A-6 Mary King was born 10-26-1863. She married Chris Vonier on 2-9-1893. Chris was born 5-20-1866 in Alsace. They had 3 children, and here we have an unusual coincidence. All three of their children married back into the I-A branch of Johannes Rupp. Clara Vonier married Peter Rupp, I-A-2-11 and from here on those branches are identical. Alma Vonier married Alvin Stamm who is the I-A-4-9 branch. Herma Vonier married Ora Rupp who is also the I-A-10-4 branch. Peter, Alvin, and Ora are first cousins in the I-A line, but their wives are sisters in the V-A-3 line.

48 - (75)

V-A-7 Catherine King was born 3-27-1867 - Fulton County
D. 12-7-1918

V-A-8 Samuel King was born 9-8-1869 in Fulton County and died 11-12-1900. He married Emma Klech who was born in Switzerland. She came to Ohio in 1871. They had 4 sons who went west. Oliver King, the eldest, was a well-known newspaper man in Phoenix, Arizona, and he has kept in touch with Archbold relatives. There are now 54 names on this V-A-8 line.

V-A-9 Christian King was born 12-15-1871 in Fulton County. He married Josephine Bruening who had children by a former marriage. I do not know if they were adopted by Chris King. This family lived in Wauseon, Ohio, in 1940. Chris King had the old family Bible that had been in the King family.

V-A-10 Joel King was born 6-10-1874. He married Lydia Rashley. They lived in Morenci, Michigan, for a time. They had 5 children, and I believe some descendants are in the Wauseon area as well as southern Michigan.

14 - (60)

V-A-11 Sarah King was born 4-15-1880. She married Albert Aeschliman and they moved to Middleburg, Indiana. Their eldest daughter, Ilva, married back into the Rupp line when she married Maurice Rupp.

8- (16)

The V-A branches are fairly complete, and my charts have most of the records to 1940 - and some through 1960.

V-B Elizabeth King - B. circa 1829 - Baden

Married Joseph Gerig

I have no dates of any kind on the V-B line although they should be available in the Fulton County records.

V-B-1 The eldest child in this family was Magdalena Gerig. She married Fred Peters, and they moved to Ithaca, Michigan, years ago. They had 5 children - Lydia, Anna, Joel, Frank and Barbara. The only one that I traced was Barbara, who married Solomon Erbsom of near Archbold.

10 - (60)

V-B-2 The second child, Anna Gerig, married Nathaniel Aeschliman and lived in the Pettisville are. They had 4 children that were reputed as living in Fulton County - Samuel, Malinda, Ida and Isaiah.

8 - (50)

V-B-3 Daniel Gerig was born 5-2-1857 and died 3-26-1941. He married Katherine Hauenstein, born 11-27-1856. They are buried in Lauber Hill cemetery. They had 3 children. The eldest, Henry Gerig, born 12-5-1879, married Cora Lauber and they had 6 children. The 4th was Irene, born 5-27-1913, and she married Irvin Rupp. He is on the I-E-4-3 branch.

V-B-4 Amos Gerig was the 4th child, and he married Elizabeth Herr. They had 5 children - Victor, Fred, Minnie, Sadie and Beatrice. One family went to Waldron, Michigan, and another is believed to be living east of Wauseon (William Neuenschwander).

13 - (75)

V-B-5 Katherine Gerig was born 4-28-1861 in Fulton County. She married Joseph Vonier in November, 1881, Fulton County. He was born 12-25-1858 and died 1-24-1939 (Pettisville cemetery). They had 9 children and most of their descendants are in Fulton County. Some of them married back into the Rupp family. Priscilla's son, Kenneth Grieser, married Doris Rupp, who is on the I-A-5-5-9 branch, and Galen Grieser married Ada Rupp. Then Elizabeth Vonier, the 5th child, born 6-5-1889, married Jacob H. Rupp who heads the I-A-5-7 branch.

79 - (220)

V-B-6 Joel Gerig married Rose Vonier, a sister of Joseph. They had 5 children. Most of their families live in the Delta and Swanton area. Records on this V-B-6 line are very incomplete.

11 - (70)

V-B-7 Joseph Gerig married Lydia Peters, and they had 5 children - Ervin, Melvin, Albert, Hannah and Maynard. They moved to Alma, Michigan, several decades ago. A daughter, Hannah, married Fred Eicher.

8 - (60)

The subtotals in V-B add up to a total of 159 actual names and an estimated potential of over 600 names. This indicates that the historian for V-B has a job ahead of him in completing his chart.

V-C Anna King-- B. 10-30-1830 - Baden
D. - Eckley Cemetery
Married Daniel Grieser - B. 1-22-1822
" 12-21-1854

Anna King was born 10-30-1830 and married Daniel Grieser 12-21-1854. He was born 1-22-1822. Dan Grieser's first wife was Mary Aeschliman. Anna raised their three children so that they are considered a part of the family, although they are not blood descendants of the V-C line. Anna King and Daniel Grieser had 7 children born to their marriage and five have descendants today. Anna and Dan are buried in Eckley cemetery.

V-C-1 Magdalena Grieser was born in 1856 and died in 1869.

V-C-2 Mary Grieser was born 1-15-1857 and died in 1870.

V-C-3 Elizabeth Grieser was born 1-9-1859. She married John Miller and they lived in the Pettisville area. They had 6 children, and I believe some of their descendants married back into the Rupp line. Lester Miller (B. 3-2-1912) married Bessie Rupp who is VI-C-9. Many can be found in Amish-Menn. churches in that area.

34 - (230)

V-C-4 Daniel Grieser was born 2-19-1862 and married Anna Nofsinger. They had 9 children, and I believe many are in Fulton County today. The Grieser name is common in the Amish-Mennonite church.

31 - (100)

V-C-5 John Grieser was born 9-8-1864 and he married Lydia Yoder. They had 5 children and this branch should find many in Fulton County.

10 - (80)

V-C-6 Simon Grieser was born 3-10-1867 and married Elizabeth Nofsinger. They had 6 children, but like the other V-A, V-B and V-C lines, few entries have been made since the 1930's. Some of this V-C-6 line married back into the family. Elmer Grieser married Minnie Stuckey, who is I-B-2-4-2. Raymond Grieser married Florence Stamm, who is I-A-4-3-2. This is the family that had the tragic accident on January 4, 1948, when 4 of their children were killed at a railroad crossing near Archbold. There was a blinding snowstorm. They were towing a bob-sled and did not see the approaching train. Ten children were killed instantly. This is the worst single tragedy that ever struck any of the descendants of Johannes Rupp.

18 - (50)

V-C-7 Jacob Grieser, born 10-14-1870, married Lydia Baer. They had 4 children, and one of them, Charles, married Sophia Rupp who is on the VI-B-1-3 line. This branch is in Fulton County.

24 - (125)

At the start of this chapter on the V branch, I raised the question as to whether or not there was a V-D branch for Daniel who married Barbara Kraus, a V-E branch for Barbara King who married Joseph Kraus, and a V-F branch for Joseph who married Mary Brodbeck.

Oliver King of the V-A-8 line confirms the existence of Daniel and Joseph King, but does not know if they have descendants. He took notes from one of his aunts, and she said there were five

children in the John King V family. She denied the existence of a daughter named Barbara. It is contradictions like this that confound the historians.

CHAPTER XVII

The Peter Rupp - Barbara Goldsmith Line

with Further Details on the VI Line

Married Barbara Goldsmith - B. Alsace
D.

VI-A Barbara Rupp - B.
D. - Eckley Cemetery

I feel certain that many in the VI line married into branches of the Rupp tree. I have listed only a few cases to report that involved some of the older generation.

-144-

VI-A-2 Joel C. Nofsinger was born 6-2-1866 in Archbold. He married Magdalena Roth who was born 10-22-1866. She may have been a sister - at least a cousin - of Rebecca's husband. They were married 8-4-1889. Joel died 1-2-1955 and Magdalena died 5-13-1916. Both are buried in Eckley cemetery. They had three children and virtually all of their branch are in the Archbold area. Their youngest daughter, Verna Nofsinger (B. 5-27-1903) has kept records and statistics on this branch. VI-A-2-1-1-3 (Lowell Nofsinger) married Dianna Stamm who is on one of the I-A branches.

64 - (90)

VI-A-3 Magdalena Nofsinger - Born and died in infancy.

VI-A-4 Menno Nofsinger was the 4th child. He married Esther Frey. They had one daughter, Gladys Nofsinger. She married Marion Winzeler. So far as I know, they had no children.

VI-A-5 Fannie Nofsinger was born 8-8-1873 and died 3-26-1923. She married Rudolph Yoder on 11-9-1893. He was born 4-20-1870 and died 4-6-1953. They had 9 children, and they are scattered in Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan. Their third child, Sarah Yoder (B. 6-15-1898), married Ira Rupp who heads the VI-B-2-1 branch. There were 28 grandchildren in the VI-A-5 line in 1935, but there have been no additions recorded in 40 years.

54 - (175)

VI-A-6 Katherine Nofsinger was born 11-2-1875 in Fulton County and died 3-1-1949 (Eckley cemetery). She married Jacob E. Nofsinger, born 9-5-1869 in Henry County, Ohio; married 3-12-1896 and died 11-24-1930. They had 3 children, all of whom

settled in the Archbold or Bryan area. They had 18 grandchildren and 36 great-grandchildren in 1959. No entries have been made since that date.

75 - (135)

VI-A-7 Elizabeth Nofsinger married John Jacob Spies. They had 7 daughters, and all seven were teachers. They lived in the Archbold areas. One daughter, Nellie Spies, married Wilmer Rupp of the IV-A-5-7 line.

18 - (40)

VI-B Jacob F. Rupp - B. 11-4-1840
D. 12-20-1928

Married Fannie Frey - B. 12-18-1842
" 1866 D. 11-19-1868

Married Mary Short - B.
" 1871 D. 1881

Married Eliza Roth - B. 11-1-1849
" 1883 D. 1-29-1932

Jacob F. Rupp is buried in Eckley cemetery, along with his three wives. The first, Fannie Frey, bore him one son, Samuel Rupp. The second wife, Mary Short, bore him 6 children. The third wife was Eliza Roth who bore him 5 children.

VI-B-1 Samuel Rupp was born 12-20-1867 and died in 1928 (Eckley cemetery). He married Minnie Gautsche and they had 4 daughters. All lived in Fulton County. This is a large branch and they married into Amish-Menn. families, Frey, Wyse and Grieser. When I last recorded them, the first two girls each had eight children. The third daughter, Cora Rupp, married Charles Grieser, V-C-8-2 line. 38 - (180).

VI-B-2 Henry Rupp was born 10-19-1872 in Henry County. He married Anna Nofsinger and they had 6 children. Their eldest child, Ira Rupp, married Sarah Yoder who heads VI-A-5-3 line. They were married 11-16-1920. Some of their family should be in the Pettisville area. Like the other VI-B lines, no additions have been made in 40 years.

14 - (55)

VI-B-3 Rosie Rupp was born 9-3-1874 in Henry County and died 8-12-1949. She married Jacob Beck on 1-3-1895. He was born 7-17-1864 in Fulton County and died 7-16-1940 (Pettisville cem.). They had 9 children, and most of them were in Amish-Mennonite communities in Lockport, Archbold, or in Leo, Indiana, although some had gone to Detroit. The family is probably widely scattered now, and the nine children should have many progeny.

39 - (120)

VI-B-4 Lydia Rupp was born 11-7-1875 in Henry County and died 1-30-1966 in Bryan, Ohio. She married Albert J. Smucker 1-25-1900. He was born in 1873 and died 5-14-1940 (Pettisville cem.). They had 4 children scattered in northwestern Ohio area. No entries have been made in the last 40 years.

13 - (50)

VI-B-5 Enos Rupp was born 12-29-1877. He was a bachelor.

VI-B-6 Mary Rupp was born 9-7-1879. She married Nicholas J. Wyse 2-27-1902. He was born 1-6-1878 in Fulton County and died 1-3-1950 in Pettisville. They had 3 children and 6 grandchildren in 1944, living in Pettisville and Stryker, Ohio, and Detroit, Michigan.

16 - (45)

VI-B-7 Priscilla Rupp died in infancy and is buried in Eckley cemetery.

VI-B-8 Harmon Rupp was born 6-4-1884. His first wife was Lovina Geiger. She had two children. She committed suicide, which seems to have been rare in Mennonite families, although I have run across it several times in the Rupp family records. Harmon's second wife was Della Zimmerman. Harmon was the first child of Jacob F. Rupp's third wife, Eliza Roth.

5 - (15)

VI-B-9 Fannie Rupp was born 2-3-1886. Her first husband was Sam Zook and they had 3 children. Their youngest was killed in action in World War II. After Sam's death, Fannie married Harry Severson of Rockford, Illinois. A daughter, Josephine Zook, married a McBride. In recent years Fannie Severson has been a benefactor of Goshen College. She has been very much interested in the history of Mennonite families.

9 - (15)

VI-B-10 Dr. Jacob R. Rupp was born 11-20-1887. He was a Lieutenant Colonel in the U. S. Army. He died 3-17-1966, at Battle Creek, Michigan. He married Edith Vorhees and they had three children. He was interested in family history. At the last report, his children were in Detroit and Pontiac, Michigan, and in Denver, Colorado. Dr. Jacob Rupp is buried in Rock Island National Cemetery, one of the few Rups to be interred in a national cemetery.

7 - (25)

VI-B-11 Simon Rupp was born 6-4-1889. He married Blanche Davenport. They lived in Union City, Pennsylvania, for a time.

They had two daughters, Ruth Jane and Letty Jean, who lived in Pennsylvania, but I have lost trace of them. Ruth married Donald Watson.

5 - (15)

VI-B-12 Adam Rupp was born 3-4-1894 and married Velma (?). They had two daughters, Marilyn and Josephine. At last report they lived in Hollywood, California.

4 - (15)

VI-C Christian B. Rupp and Barbara Wyse

Christian B. Rupp was born 2-2-1842 near Pettisville, Ohio, and died 10-20-1913 in Fulton County. He is buried in Eckley cemetery. He married Barbara Wyse 5 -3-1864. She died 10-15-1915 (Eckley cem.). Believe it or not, they had 15 children, and 11 have descendants today.

VI-C-1 Andrew Rupp was born 12-10-1865 and died 8-27-1866.

VI-C-2 Christian Rupp was born Feb. 1867; died 3-12-1867.

VI-C-3 Daniel Rupp was born 8-20-1868 and died 4-27-1930. He is buried in West Franklin cemetery near Zone, Ohio. He married Viola Gleason on 1-24-1890 in Fulton County. She was born 2-6-1871 and died at Round Lake, Michigan. They had one daughter, Clara, who married Otto Cutshaw. This branch sent me their family records through 1957, and although a small branch, they were very widely scattered. Otto Cutshaw remarried after Clara's death and lived in Michigan.

21 - (45)

VI-C-4 Mary Magdalena Rupp was born 10-31-1870 and died in 1926. She is buried in the Burg cemetery near Montgomery, Michigan. Her first husband was John Wesley Holly who died 1-22-1910 and is buried in Floral Grove cemetery near West Unity, Ohio. The Hollys had 9 children and have many descendants scattered over a wide area. Fortunately, one member of this branch gave me complete records through 1960. I received a list of 113 names on this branch. Many are located in Michigan, but they are now scattered all over the United States, and it will be difficult to keep up records on the VI-C-4 line. After John Holly's death, Mary married Charles Moore. They were divorced shortly after that. There were no children. Mary then married William Franks in 1914 and they had one daughter. This branch apparently has no connection with any Mennonite church today. Most of them live in urban communities. There are occasional divorces listed on the family record.

117 - (210)

VI-C-5 Aaron Rupp - B. 1-22-1873; D. 1-16-1894.

VI-C-6 Amos Rupp was born 8-22-1874 in Fulton County. His first wife was Mary E. Cook - B. 1875; M. 1-5-1898 in Fulton County; D. 1927. His second wife was Hattie Thompson. They were married 5-6-1931 in Pioneer, Ohio and they had one adopted daughter, Jari Deane, who was married twice and had one child by each husband.

9 - (14)

VI-C-7 Elizabeth Rupp was born 4-3-1876 and died 3-7-1956 (Tedrow cemetery). She married Charles L. Bigbee 3-14-1900 and he died 10-24-1939 at Tedrow. They had one son, Olen, and he

has children in the Fulton County area. Olen married Hazel May Roth who is on the II-B-9-1 line as well as II-D-1-6 line.

15 - (25)

VI-C-8 Irvin Rupp was born 8-3-1877 and died 8-18-1950 in Fulton County. He married Sarah Rashley 12-7-1900. She was born 8-13-1883 in Fulton County and heads the I-E-3-4 line. They had 3 children. At one time I received mail addressed to their eldest son, Allen Edw. Rupp. This is a small branch. Some are in Virginia, and one daughter is in Wauseon.

11 - (25)

VI-C-9 William C. Rupp was born 8-6-1879 (Fulton) and died 1-3-1957 at Pettisville, Ohio. His first wife was Ora C. Walters, born 12-27-1876 and died 4-1-1907 of burns received in an accident while making soap (Tedrow Cem.). They had two children, and their eldest son, Henry Garfield Rupp (B. 6-7-1902) of Bryan, Ohio, has kept excellent records on this branch of the family.

His second wife was Katie B. Roth, B. 8-17-1885 and married 3-25-1909 and died 10-5-1946. They had 5 children. Their second son, Levi W. Rupp, had 10 children, and so this is a big branch. William C. Rupp married Martha Seidner 2-15-1948 after the death of his second wife. They had no children, although Martha had two children by a previous marriage to a Roth. Some of this family are members of the Amish-Mennonite church.

72 - (145)

VI-C-10 Sarah Ann Rupp was born 6-7-1881 in Fulton County and died 7-14-1924 (Lauber Hill cemetery). She married Lewis E. Bernath 7-20-1899. He was born 5-13-1877 and died in November 1945 (Lauber Hill). Lewis married Carrie Rohrs-Kutli after Sarah's death. Sarah had five sons and one daughter, and many of this family live in Fulton County today. Records on the family are fairly complete to 1960. They have a variety of occupations, but only a fraction of this branch have remained in the Mennonite church.

34 - (55)

VI-C-11 John Peter Rupp was born 9-26-1883 and died 2-22-1934 in Fulton County (Johnson cemetery). He married Lillie May Graber 8-24-1905 (Fulton). They had 9 children and five have descendants, but they are scattered. Comm. Lewis A. Rupp of Washington, D.C., has been interested in getting information on this branch. Records have been made through 1950. This branch also represents a wide variety of occupations.

39 - (95)

VI-C-12 Alice Cora Rupp (B. 4-4-1885) married Samuel Lantz, a first cousin once removed. He was born 3-14-1882 (Fulton), married 12-17-1903, and died 8-23-1955. They had but one daughter, Mildred, who lived. She married Theodore Valentine, and they had but one son. Mildred was a librarian at Highland Park, Michigan.

6 - (9)

VI-C-13 Flora Rupp was born 8-30-1886 and died 8-3-1887.

VI-C-14 Ivah Sewema Rupp was born 6-16-1888 (Fulton) and married William Grover Russell 7-25-1907. They had two children and lived in Fayette, Ohio. Some of their descendants are in Fulton County today.

12 - (16)

VI-C-15 Eva Rupp was born 5-9-1891 (Fulton) and married Mahlon John Russell, a brother of Ivah's husband. They had one daughter. Mahlon died 5-4-1927 (Fayette) and Eva married Charles J. McGowan 3-10-1931 and they had two children.

19 - (35)

VI-D Benjamin Rupp and Elizabeth Siegel

Ben Rupp was born about 1845 and married Elizabeth Siegel 12-19-1872 in Fulton County. His name is listed as Benedictine Rupp. They had 9 children. Records on this family are very incomplete and will be difficult to obtain as the family is now scattered. I do not know where Ben and Elizabeth are buried, but it is probably in an Amish-Menn. cemetery.

I probably have Ben Rupp out of order. He may be the 6th child instead of the 4th. Peter Rupp is probably older.

VI-D-1 Andrew Rupp was the eldest child. He married Minnie Mulligan. They moved to Indiana and had two children, but only one, Richard L. Rupp, has descendants. He lived in the Mark Center, Ohio, area for a time, and had a son named Barry.

6 - (11)

VI-D-2 Sarah Rupp was the second child and she married Eli Flory. They had 3 sons, Ben, Aaron, and Albert, and one daughter, Florence, who married Leonard Kuhn. I have no addresses for any of this branch.

17 - (35)

VI-D-3 Edward Rupp had two wives. The first was Amanda Mulligan. She had one daughter, Nellie. Amanda is buried in the Sherwood, Ohio, cemetery. The second wife was Ada. She had one daughter, Mildred. Some years ago, these two daughters lived in Beaverton, Michigan. One married Earl Rowe and the other a man named Shepperd.

6 - (30)

VI-D-4 Katherine Rupp was the 4th child and she married Dan English. They had 6 children. This family lived in Mark Center, Ohio, for a time, but are probably widely scattered now. I have notes on John Daniel, Serge, Larry, and Patsy Ann English as well as Phyllis and Jerry Ruff, grandchildren of Katherine Rupp and Dan English.

VI-D-5 Benjamin Rupp married Rose Kinter. Their eldest son, Adrian, went to Grand Junction, Colorado. Dorothy went to California. Mary married Donald Rourke. We have no trace of this branch.

7 - (30)

VI-D-6 Walter Rupp married Anna Hornish. Like many in the VI-D line, they moved to Beaverton, Michigan, which is near Gladwin. They had 6 children, Nora, Marion, Fern, William, Earl, and Robert, and I have no further records on this branch, although

William was reported as living in Bay City, Michigan. This should be a fair-sized branch.

8 - (40)

VI-D-7 Irvin Rupp married Clara Kushman. They lived in Ft. Wayne, Indiana, at the last report and had two daughters, Stella and Elizabeth. Stella married Fred Hagerdom, and Elizabeth married a Miller.

5 - (25)

VI-D-8 Abbie Rupp married Henry Flory and they lived in Jewell, Ohio. They had one son who lived near Defiance.

5 - (10)

VI-D-9 Oscar Rupp was born 4/11/ . He married Stella Flory, and they had 4 sons, Henry, Glen, Denver, and Paul. Henry went to Pioneer, Ohio, Glen to Tecumseh, Michigan, and Denver and Paul remained in Williams County, Ohio.

14 - (50)

VI-E Peter J. Rupp - B. 11-29-1843 - Pettisville, Ohio
D. 1-15-1921 - Larned, Kansas

Married Elizabeth King - B.
" 1867 D. 8-25-1921 - Larned, Kansas

This VI-E branch should have preceded the Ben Rupp VI-D chart.

VI-E-1 Lavina Rupp was the eldest child of Peter and Elizabeth, born in Pettisville 2-5-1868. She moved to Oklahoma City and her descendants are found in Oklahoma, Arkansas, and

California. Mrs. Mamie Winfrey has kept up the records on this branch. I have 106 names on the VI-E-1 chart, and it is virtually complete.

VI-E-2 Enoch Rupp - B. 12-24-1869 and died in infancy.
(Twins)

VI-E-3 Noah Rupp - B. 12-24-1869. He died 11-16-1926 in Larned, Kansas. He did not marry.

VI-E-4 Abraham Rupp was born 5-17-1873 in Pettisville. He married Irene Bertha Bowman on 11-8-1894 in Stafford, Kansas. They moved to Falfurias, Texas, many years ago. They had 3 sons, Neil, Elmer, and Clyde, born in Larned, Kansas, but all moved to Falfurias, Texas, in 1913 to raise citrus fruit. Later they diversified their farming interests into producing a wide variety of crops. In 1926 Clyde started into dairy cattle business, and his large Holstein herd has won many awards in Texas. It is interesting to note that some of the younger members of his family are devoted to translating the Bible into the languages of the Indian tribes of Central America. Like so many of their cousins, they take an active part in religious activities. Recently Clyde has become interested in Rupp family history and promises to keep track of the many activities of the VI-E-4 branch.

25 - (60)

VI-E-5 Emma Rupp - B. 1-11-1878 - D. 1883 in Kansas.

VI-E-6 Louise Rupp - B. 5-29-1879. Lived in Boulder, Colorado, many years. Married Sollie Edward Arnold, but there is no record of any children.

VI - F - X Gideon Rupp married Eliza Roth. They had one child that died in infancy, and so I did not construct a VI-F chart for Gideon.

VI-F Joel Rupp heads VI-F line on my charts. His first wife was Mary Roth, B. 11-19-1850. She was a second cousin and heads the II-B-2 line. They had 8 children, and information on this family can be found on the II-B-2 chart.

Mary died and was buried in Kansas. Joel then remarried a widow named Stine and fathered two more children. This adds to the VI-F line, but not the II-B-2. The first of these two children was Eva who married William Brawley of Fayette, Ohio. The second was Isa who married Ira Jones of Oak Shade in Fulton County, Ohio.

VI-G Daniel Rupp was the youngest child of Peter Rupp, and he was born 4-8-1855 in Pettisville, Ohio. He died 7-23-1947 in Falfurias, Texas, where he lived with his nephews. He was a bachelor.

Daniel was the youngest grandchild of Johannes Rupp of Orschweier. It is a long stretch of time from the birth of his first granddaughter, Catharina, at Kippenheim, Germany, on January 3, 1803, to the death of his last grandchild, Daniel, at Falfurias, Texas, on July 23, 1947. It is more than a span of 144 years. Johannes could never have imagined the changes in environment between Kippenheim in 1803 and Falfurias in 1947. But this is a world of change. Even our grandparents would not have foreseen a world that is now challenging our grandchildren.

PART IV

CHAPTER XVIII

Suggestions for Later Family Historians

(Suggestions that may be helpful to those working
on further family histories of Rupps or related
families of Mennonite origin)

My numbering system:

Each of the second generation that had descendants in America, from John to Peter, six in all, were assigned a large Roman numeral indicating that they headed one of the six major branches of the Johannes Rupp family.

Each of the grandchildren was assigned a large capital letter in each of the six lines. A went to the eldest, B to the next child, and so on. Every one of the grandchildren who make up the 3rd generation was given a capital letter if he or she had descendants. If the line died out at the 3rd generation, I used an X indicating termination of that line.

Each of the fourth generation, the great-grandchildren of Johannes, was given an arabic number indicating his chronological order. Thus 1 went to the eldest child, 4 to the fourth, and so on. In most cases I ascribed a number to every child that was born, even though some died in infancy. I was not consistent in this in my charts, but I have tried to correct this in my family summaries in Part III. In some cases, I had dropped the

names of those who died and left no progeny. I later discovered that some of my cousins wanted me to identify certain graves in the cemetery of names of relatives who have passed away and been forgotten. Since I was also interested in the incidence of infant mortality, I reversed an earlier decision and now, whenever possible, I include every child born to a family, even though they may have lived but a few days.

I have also included on the charts a notation of (A) at the end of a name when the parent informed me that child was an adopted child. Since so many Mennonites adopt children of relatives, many of these adopted children are very much members of the family. I did not choose to exclude any of them if possible.

I drew circular charts on 36" or 42" paper for each branch. The circular chart had the names of the father and mother at the very center. In the first ring surrounding them I had their children. The next ring had their grandchildren, the next ring their great-grandchildren, and so on. I found it difficult to get more than 5 generations on a 42" square chart. The circular chart, which is something I devised because of the necessity of presenting a lot of information in a limited space, had the added advantage of making it easy to perceive the relationship between the different people on the chart.

I did not assign each person a number as some genealogists do, for the basic reason that a number of these people are on the Rupp chart in two or three, or even four, different places. No one number fits them.

There are charts with 150 names where I indicate that total may reach (350) in 1975. This sounds as if the job is less than

half-done. That really is not true, for in considering actual work entailed, the job may be more than three-fourths complete. Many of these records are complete to 1940, and these people are living today and known to other members of the family. If they happen to live in the same area, such as Fulton County, Ohio, or attend the same church, such as Evan. Menn., it should not be difficult for a member of that branch to complete their particular branch of the tree. I drew up two I-A-2 charts for two of my aunts. They really appreciated them because it gave them the birthday and the wedding anniversary date of their many nephews and nieces.

These smaller charts, if not too wide, can be reproduced at not too great an expense. My own hand-made charts of all the branches will stretch for over 200 feet - with a minimum width of 36" to 42".

Checking Early Records:

If you are checking records in Europe, there are two books that will be of help to you in preparing your trip if your ancestors are Mennonite. The first is Delbert Gratz's book "Bernese Anabaptists" and the second is "Reserches Historiques sur les Anabaptistes" by Mathiot and Boigel.

In Europe you will find that prior to 1789, it was not obligatory to get a birth certificate. As a result, all records prior to 1789 were kept in the church. The Catholic church kept a good record, but some of the records of the Mennonite churches are lost. After 1789 the^{law} required a civil registration, but here

again the Mennonites did not cooperate with civil authorities, and many births were not recorded.

The archives at Colmar, France, have a list of Anabaptist ministers for 1703. One is a Jacob Rupp who may be an ancestor of Johannes. He was in the St. Marie aux Mines area of Alsace.

A later list shows a Hans Rupp and a Christian Rupp as ministers at Strasbourg - about 1780. This list also showed a Jacob Rupp from the Briesgeau area near Freiberg, Germany.

The passport list at Colmar, France, Archives will help locate some of our ancestors. It covers passports issued from 1837 into 1842. This is where I first found the name of Jean Rupp - that is the French equivalent of John. He got a passport #277 on March 6, 1838. He is listed as a farmer from Orschweier. I am certain that this is the John I on our charts.

They also issued passport #768 to Nicolas Roth, age 19 from Winglingen, Baden, to Ohio. This may be one of our four Roth boys in the II line.

Passport #1261 was issued December 14, 1839, to Christian Rupp, age 21, with his sister from Reinbecke, Langhalter, Baden to New York. This could be a grandson and granddaughter of Johannes.

Those who live in northwestern Ohio will have no trouble in checking local records. The county courthouse in Wauseon has records of birth, marriage, and death. For obituaries you have an excellent source in the Wauseon Republican and the Archbold Buckeye, as well as papers in neighboring towns. Some day we may have records filed for all of the graves in the cemeteries. This will save many hours of work. Some of the churches will have

early records that will be of assistance.

In the 1930's I discovered a whole collection of the Archbold Herald in a basement in Wauseon. I wanted a copy of the paper that reported my birth in 1901, and so I purchased a whole box of these newspapers covering the years 1893 through 1907. In 1953, I gave the entire collection to the Ohio Historical Society for their newspaper collection. They have been micro-filmed and placed on file in the state museum. Unfortunately, the micro-filming is not of good quality and some of the copies are scarcely legible.

It is impossible to work on family records without discovering discrepancies that will bother you. All of us make errors in transcribing data. I have continued to make changes in my own notes. In spite of the fact that all of ^{us} try to be accurate in recording names and dates, we will make some errors. Please forgive me for any mistakes you may uncover in your research into the family records.

CHAPTER XIX

Major Family Names Represented on Johannes Rupp Line

This is not just a Rupp tree. If the mother of the six children was named Wagler, then it is also a Wagler tree.

In the second generation we have the major lines of Joseph Roth and John King. In addition, the names Roth and King will appear in many parts of this record. I would estimate that if we were doing a Roth tree, we would get several thousand Roths from our Johannes Rupp records.

When we go to the third generation, we run into such well known Mennonite names as Lauber, Freyenberger, Brenneman, Kaufman, Kraus, Kuebler, Schad, Aeschliman, Burkholder, Lantz, Gerig, Wyse, Sauder, Steinman, Grieser, Frey and others, most of whom will find literally hundreds of the members of that particular family name on the Johannes Rupp tree. When you get down to the fourth generation, you add more of these same family names, plus some very familiar names as Short, Yoder, Stamm, Bucher, Wegkesser, Stutzman, Studer, Koenigsecker, Klopfenstein, Lehman, Myers, Zimmerman, Beaverson, Nofsinger, Nofziger, Nafziger, Yaggy, Walvogel, Miller, Steiner, Eicher, Engbrecht, Beck, Zaehr, Baer, Vonier, and so on, all of Germanic or Swiss origin and virtually all found on Amish or Mennonite church rolls.

It is not until the start of the 20th century that we see a gradual change in the introduction of new family names of English origin. Although we had names as Kimberlin and Taylor

prior to 1900, they were the exception. There are a few that are both French and Teutonic - but there is almost a complete absence of any Spanish, Italian, or southern European names. It is only in the last decade or two that we have seen a wide variety of names embracing new ethnic groups.

CHAPTER XX

Religions Represented in the Early History of the Johannes Rupp Family

There is no question concerning the religion of the children of Johannes Rupp, for all were reared in the Amish-Mennonite faith. This branch is now called the old Mennonite church. Many of their young people attend Goshen College at Goshen, Indiana. This "Old Mennonite" group is not to be confused with the Old Order Amish who are much more strict and conservative in their customs and manner of dress.

The rules and regulations do change over the years - be the church a branch of the Swiss Brethren started by Conrad Grebel or one of the older Mennonite churches started by Menno Simms, or the more conservative group that followed Jacob Amann.

When they came to America, they continued to break off into splinter groups, due to differences of opinion in regard to their interpretation of the Bible. I have listened to scores of explanations as to the "differences" between the various branches of the Mennonite church. No two explanations are the same. I have heard outsiders ascribe customs to Mennonites and related groups that I know are not true. What may have been a custom in a Pennsylvania church may not have been accepted in an Ohio or Kansas church with the same name. Even more obvious is the fact that what was permitted in 1975 was not permitted in 1919 - in the same church and community.

I well remember a story that my father told me many years ago. A salesman came to Archbold late in the 19th century with

the purpose of selling windmills to the farmers in German Township. He met a stone wall and was very discouraged. He finally confided in W. O. Taylor of the Archbold Buckeye. Taylor told him that he was wasting his time going from farm to farm. Taylor told him that there were but three men to consider and they were the three ministers of the church, for unless the church approved of the purchase of the windmill, the members would not buy the new fangled contraption. Taylor suggested some points that he thought might convince the church elders that such a modern device was not an instrument of the devil. I think he hinted that they got to America by harnessing the wind with the sails on their boats, and that harnessing the wind to bring water to their farms was a part of God's plan. The young man took the advice, and as a result he sold his first windmill to either a Rupp or a Nofsinger, who was a church leader. Taylor said after that the salesman sold virtually every farmer in German Township in a few weeks time.

My father had other similar stories that accounted for the gradual acceptance of modern appliances. But the religious dispute that most disturbed the descendants of Johannes Rupp was the split that broke the Mennonite community in German Township into two major factions. It started with a group led by Bishop Joseph Egli. It was a matter of interpretation of the scriptures, and no doubt it was also a conflict of personalities, but it pitted brother against brother. The Egli faction withdrew and started the Defenceless Mennonite church that is today known as the Evangelical Mennonite church.

I remember an elderly relative telling me with tears in her eyes that she was not permitted to attend the funeral of her sister, who had joined another division of the Mennonite church. Time has healed many of these disputes. The changes within the group over a period of time have been greater than the differences between the Egli group and the parent group today.

A knowledge of the cemeteries in the Archbold area will be helpful to a genealogist in locating some of the records of his ancestors. Most of the early members on these family records are buried in church cemeteries that are virtually family cemeteries. A complete check on such cemeteries as Lauber Hill, Eckley, Aeschliman, old Defense Mennonite, Johnson, and other cemeteries in Fulton County and nearby counties that were used by Mennonite families will be of great help in getting dates and added information on some of these branches.

All of this discussion concerning the Mennonite church and its many branches may be misleading to outsiders. The Mennonites are an outgrowth of the old Anabaptist movement in Europe at the time of the Reformation. Anabaptists did not believe in infant baptism. The baptismal date might be 12 to 15 years after the date of birth. The various groups in the Anabaptist movement were united in their opposition to war, to civil service and to state control of the church. Menno Simms (1492-1559) headed the largest group. Conrad Grebel headed a group of similar leanings in 1525, known as the Swiss Brethren (or Brethern). Jacob Ammann did not start his Amish split until 1693-1697. From

then on we have the movement sub-divided again and again and reunited in some cases with other splinter groups.

Today the largest group is simply called "The Mennonite Church" and their leading college is Goshen College. They first came to the United States in 1683 into Pennsylvania. In the 1967 church census they claimed 1260 churches and 90,000 members. Many of the Johannes Rupp line are in this church.

The second largest group is the General Conference Mennonite group with 189 churches and over 36,000 members. Their leading college is Bluffton College. A few of our family are in this church.

Probably the next in size is the Old Order Amish with 325 churches and 21,500 members. A few members of our family may be in this church, although I have not met any in recent years. Some of our people are in the Missionary Church which had 279 churches and over 17,000 members in 1970.

But our family does have a very large representation in the Egli group. Howard J. Landes on his chart of Mennonite branches lists the Egli group as an offshoot of the Alsatian Amish immigration of 1820-1850, and he dates the Egley group as being formed in 1866. He lists the Missionary church as an offshoot of the Egley group, and now known as the Evangelical Mennonite Church. In the 1967 census they had 20 churches and over 3,000 members, and I suspect that of the church membership in Ohio and Indiana, that well over half of them will be on the Johannes Rupp tree. We also have our family represented in the Reformed Mennonite and the Church of the Brethren and the New Mennists. On some of my charts I have as high as 25 offshoots of the Mennonite church,

but most of these are very small, and some may have been absorbed by other groups.

Henry Egly (1824-1890) lived for forty years in Adams County, Indiana, but he preached in many churches in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and even in Missouri, Kansas, and Nebraska. He demanded that those who followed him be rebaptised and this split the church.

Later on (between 1890 and 1900) another division took place and the Missionary Church Association was formed. For a number of years the Evangelical Mennonite Church held an annual conference in August in Ft. Wayne.

All of this history may be of little interest to young people today - but it was a vital fact of the lives of our ancestors of 100 or 200 years ago. It was a tragedy when the bans were enforced and brothers and sisters dared not speak to one who had been banned from their church.

All Mennonite groups totaled together might not exceed 250,000 in the United States. There are now over 15,000 in Paraguay, and it is interesting to note that those in the United States are assisting fellow Mennonites in South America with a greater emphasis on unity between various branches of their church.

The Mennonites have always been a minority group. They first entered the United States in 1683 and settled in Pennsylvania. When King Louis XIV started to persecute them in 1812, migration to the United States increased even more. Most of them entered the U.S. at the port of New York or Philadelphia. The first to come to Ohio was in 1808 at an Amish Mennonite settlement near Holmesville. Then they crossed Ohio over what would now be close

to U.S. Route 30 - moving to Allen County, Ohio, and then further west.

Christian Hege estimated that by 1935 the Swiss Mennonites in the United States had 150,000 descendants. I think that figure is entirely too small. I honestly believe that well over one million people in the U. S. in 1975 can claim at least one ancestor who came to America in the Mennonite migrations from Europe.

CHAPTER XXI

Where Will You Find Rupps Today?

It is an even bet that they will be found in all fifty states, although they are most heavily concentrated in Pennsylvania and Ohio. They first entered Pennsylvania, and I believe Peter Rupp was first, arriving in Philadelphia on September 1, 1736. Christian Rupp reached Philadelphia on August 1, 1741. Then came Weybert Rupp in 1749, as well as Johannes and Jacob Rupp from the Palatinate - and they kept right on coming. Jonas Rupp, the grandfather of Isaac Daniel Rupp, the author, arrived September 25, 1751. Jonas came from Baden, the same area from which our Ohio emigrants came in 1834 to Fulton County.

Our Rupps of northwestern Ohio were not the only Rupps in Ohio by any means. By 1850 there were six Rupps listed in Fulton County in the Ohio census. But there were three Rupps in Butler as well as three Rupps in Marion County. There were two Rupps listed in each of the following counties: Trumbull, Mahoning, Tuscarawas, Richland, and Hamilton County. Also one Rupp family was listed in Montgomery, Muskingum, Delaware, Columbiana, and Gallia Counties, and four Rupps in Clark. Since most of them were adult males and heads of families, it appears that of the 31 Rupps in Ohio in 1850, only six were in Fulton County. The other 25 may have been closely related as many came from Germany and the Palatinate, but I have no evidence as to how they were related.

At one time I thought that most of the Rupps in America

today were descended from either the early emigration into Pennsylvania over two centuries ago or from the group that came to northwestern Ohio. The Pennsylvania group far outdistances any other group in spreading the Rupp name, and the northwestern Ohio group might be a distant second - but I am now convinced that there are many other branches scattered across the country as a study of more ship lists will demonstrate.

Adolph Rupp of the University of Kentucky informed me that his grandfather came from Galicia, Austria. His family settled in Kansas.

The founders of the Rupp Manufacturing Company of Mansfield, Ohio, know of no connection of their family with the Mennonite religion.

The late Otto B. Rupp and Werner Andrew Rupp were well known lawyers in Seattle, Washington. Their record appeared in Who's Who for many years. They were born in Adrian, Michigan. In 1947 I had a long letter from Otto B. Rupp in which he informed me that his father was born at St. Leow, near Heidelberg, Germany, in 1847. He came to the United States after his grandfather was involved in the Revolution of 1848. He said that there were a large number of Rups in southern and central Michigan when his father went to Monroe, Michigan, and that he believed all of them were Catholic except his father.

There are many other Rups who have attained prominence. In checking my college directory I found 17 Rups listed as members of college faculties in the United States, and strangely enough, I did not find two who were in the same teaching area.

Phillip E. Ruppe, who represents the 11th District of Michigan in the U. S. Congress, informed me that his father came from the Slovak area of Yugoslavia and emigrated to the United States from Germany. Their family is of the Catholic faith.

You will not escape the Rupp name in Europe as I checked telephone directories and found them chiefly in Germany, France, Switzerland, and Austria. Some of the finest cheese to be obtained in Europe comes from the Josef Rupp cheese factory of Lochau, Austria.

Probably the best known Rupp in Europe today is Hans Rupp, a member of the Supreme Court of West Germany. He is a graduate of Harvard Law School. Several years ago Time Magazine paid Hans Rupp a high tribute for his record in interpreting law for West Germany. Hans Rupp informed me that, although he went to Harvard Law School for his graduate work, he and his ancestors for a number of generations lived in Germany. He knew of no connection of his family to the Mennonite church.

So the Rupps will pop up in every state with a few in most of our large cities. But I am ready to wager that the greatest concentration of Rupps in any one spot in Europe or America is in German Township, Fulton County, Ohio, and the town of Archbold. The Archbold telephone directory lists 61 Rupps, with 32 more in neighboring Wauseon, 8 in Swanton, and 5 in Stryker.

At one time it was the most common name in the Archbold directory, but it is now completely outdistanced by the Shorts who have 105 in the Archbold directory. My paternal grandmother,

Gatherine Short, might not have believed that her people would permit a telephone in the house back in 1875 - but this is 1975. And I might add that another family of Mennonite origin might exceed both Rupps and Shorts in Archbold if they could agree on the spelling. I knew them as Nofsinger - but in the Archbold directory there are 44 Nafzigers and 60 Nofzigers. Some of them told me that they are two distinct family names, but I can't agree. I have Nofziger and Nafziger, and Nofsinger cousins, and there may be a few other variations in the spelling. The spelling of our name doesn't bother us, even if we can't agree on how to pronounce it.

The Toledo directory shows many Rupps. A few years ago I checked some other large cities and found 24 with the Rupp name in Chicago, plus one Rup, one Roupp, and three Roop. Fort Wayne had 16, Cleveland 30, Indianapolis 9, Pittsburgh 16, and Buffalo 36, with the Rupp name. Even Brooklyn had 16 Rupps in the telephone directory. In Charleston, W. Va., I did not find a single Rupp listed, but found 9 with the name of Rupe.

CHAPTER XXII

German Township and Archbold, Ohio

It is impossible to tell this story without telling you of the growth of German Township, for the descendants of Johannes Rupp have been an integral part of this change.

In 1834 there were but 43 souls in German Township, but by 1850 German Township had shot up to 982 inhabitants, represented by 172 families. The 982 were fairly evenly divided as to sex as there were 511 males and 471 females. But virtually all of them were farmers, although they listed other trades when the 1850 census was taken. That record listed 201 farmers, 25 laborers, 6 carpenters, 2 millers, 2 harness workers, 2 cabinet makers, 3 shoemakers, and one representative in each of the following trades: tailor, physician, merchant, clerk, saddler, mason, blacksmith, weaver, and one Methodist Episcopal clergyman. They did not count the Amish-Mennonite preachers as clergymen. Of these 982 people in German Township in 1850, 181 were born in France (chiefly Alsace), 113 in Switzerland, 69 from Germany (chiefly Baden), 76 from Pennsylvania, 4 from England, and 486 were born in Ohio (chiefly the children born to these young couples).

By 1870, German Township had grown to 2323, and by 1880 the total was 3035. Today there are over 3000 living in the town of Archbold. Elizabeth Wyse was the first child that was listed as being born in German Township in 1837.

The total value of real estate had only reached \$154,405 by 1850. Tax values of real estate did not increase as rapidly

as might have been expected. Farms remained the chief source of wealth, but the industrial growth of the area had not started. Even as late as 1916 we may be very much surprised to know that the report of total tax valuation of real estate in the towns of Fulton County was as follows: Wauseon, the county seat, led with \$933,000; the next town was Delta with \$385,000; followed by Fayette with \$357,000; then came Swanton with \$249,000; Metamoras with \$248,000; in sixth place was Archbold with \$213,000. Archbold got very little attention in the early histories of Fulton County. The History of Northwest Ohio published in 1917 runs a feature story on Delta, but the town of Archbold got only six lines.

Other histories completely ignored the contribution of the Mennonite farmers in Fulton County, even though at that date they owned some of the finest farm land in the United States. They did not believe in "tooting their own horn" and consequently they were ignored by outsiders. Although the Amish-Mennonites in northwest Ohio were, in numbers alone, one of the leading ethnic groups in the area, they are not even mentioned in the History of Northwest Ohio published in 1917.

But these farmers of German Township had large families. Some of their sons pushed further west into Illinois, Kansas, Dakota, and other states as well as north into Michigan and even to Ontario. Many of these who migrated were descendants of Johannes Rupp. But some decided to enter the world of business. My father, Jesse Rupp, became the first cashier of Farmers and Merchants Bank. Mennonite farmers got into the hatchery business,

the fur farm industry, dairy industry, live stock industry, ladder making and cabinet making. The younger generation had just as much energy as their ancestors who cleared the land. They proved that they were just as good in the business world as they were in developing their farm land.

The manner in which their business enterprises proliferated is almost unbelievable. The figures will stagger you. The Archbold Buckeye has always been the foremost champion of the town. In the July 21, 1916, issue of the Toledo Times there is an article that belittles the "Dutch" in Archbold. The Buckeye hit back and they have been crusaders for the Archbold "Dutch" ever since. Their local paper has won many newspaper awards and received national recognition in the category of small town papers. They deserve every one of those awards. The Archbold Buckeye published a story in the January 29, 1975, issue that outlines the extraordinary development of the town. At the close of December in 1974, the Archbold banks had resources of over \$63,940,000. Wauseon, the county seat, had but \$21,882,000. Of the six or more towns in Fulton County, the Archbold banks had almost one half of the total deposits.

In spite of the recession, the industrial growth was excellent. The La Choy Food Products, who send their Chinese food products all over the United States and to foreign countries, was not started by the Chinese. A principal factor in the location of La Choy at Archbold was the Stotzer family, descendants of Frederick Stotzer, the first mayor of Archbold. La Choy now has over eight acres under roof, and if there is a Chinaman under that roof, it would be a miracle. The majority of the

workmen, as in other plants in the area, are of German descent.

The Sauder Woodworking Company employed over 300, and the new line of products was being exhibited in major cities. The Archbold Ladder Company was in its 59th year. Yoder and Frey, Inc. sold over 32,700 pieces of machinery, including over 4600 tractors sold. In February 1975, I drove out to their farm auction sale. I could not get near the place for the buyers came from all over the midwest. The sale ran through Thursday, starting on a bitterly cold Monday. When I got there at 4 p.m. on Monday, they announced that the sale of tractors for that day had already grossed over one million dollars. They are now recognized as the largest dealer in used farm machinery in the world. They have sales in Florida as well as in Archbold.

That same day I drove down to Lugbill town at the south end of Archbold to see the livestock auction started by the three Lugbill brothers, Eli, Peter and Sylvanus. Their firm grossed over \$60,000,000 in 1974.

I could go on with records of the Yoder Equipment Company at Sylvania, and other firms in nearby areas operated by descendants of the Archbold "Dutch". My father always said, "Their word was their bond." That, plus their capacity for hard work, has built a tradition of which they can be proud.

I cannot close this chapter on Archbold without mentioning once again the contribution of the Archbold Buckeye to local history. I could bury myself in the old files, for they tell a lot about the town. Orrin R. and Vince W. Taylor and Mrs. Don Parlette are co-editors and co-owners of the Buckeye.

For example, the June 27, 1916, issue informed me that one of my ancestors, Daniel D. Short, was born February 24, 1838, and came from Lacote, County of Loupe, Otzone, France.

In the July 7th issue of that same year, I learned that my father's Sunday School class of West Unity, with 81 members in attendance, had joined with the Men's Bible class of Fayette Methodist church for a total attendance of over 150 with my father as the teacher.

In 1916 on a Saturday, they counted 138 autos going south and west on "old number 2" and 84 going north and east.

In 1915 on June 8th, I learned that over 3000 people attended the funeral of David King at the Central Amish-Mennonite church. This was not unusual. A birth was a minor event, a wedding was not celebrated in 1915, but a funeral was of major importance. Everyone went to a funeral. It was in a sense a sort of family reunion. It has seemed to me that the only time I can count on seeing some of my relatives is to attend a funeral of one of the elders of the family. Here in Marietta when an elderly person dies, there are scarcely a handful at the funeral parlors. But I can guarantee you a crowd at an Amish-Mennonite funeral even if the deceased has not been active for a decade.

One story in the Buckeye surprised me. It appeared on September 16, 1913. It was a story by Michael Weber who said that a man from Toledo said there were ten saloons in Archbold and not one single church - and as a result the Lutheran church was built. The article never mentioned the enormous congregation that attended the Amish-Mennonite and the Defenceless-Mennonite churches just a short distance out of town. I remember a large

Catholic church in the north end of town, and the records show that St. Martin's Lutheran was built in 1866.

A September 26, 1913, report shows that Chris D. Nofzinger (note spelling) was born May 7, 1848, at Diesburger Hoff, Germany.

In the early days the Buckeye carried news stories from Leo and Woodburn, Indiana; Ithaca, Michigan; and other towns to which Archbold's ever growing Mennonite families were migrating.

A young family historian in Fulton County can learn much about his ancestors by perusing the old issues of the Archbold Buckeye. Photostatic copies of the Archbold Herald covering the period from 11-11-1893 to 12-12-1907 are in the newspaper files of the Ohio Historical Society. These are the papers that I purchased from a family in Wauseon and gave to the Ohio Historical Society in 1953.

The July 16, 1896, issue of the Archbold Herald had an interesting economic theory that was contrary to any economics I have learned. They ran a feature story reporting that bicycles retailed at \$100 each and that over 600 bicycles had been sold in Fulton County from 1891 to 1896. The Wauseon Tribune said, "80% of the money for bicycles left town and as a result the sale of bicycles had brought on hard times."

CHAPTER XXIII

Second Thoughts

I have reread this story several times and discovered that I have repeated myself a number of times. That, I am told, is a mark of senility. Yet I hesitated to eliminate some of those portions that were repetitive, for it seemed important to me to reemphasize certain facets of our family background.

As the story progressed, you will note that on several occasions I indicated my frustration at not being able to locate a certain branch of the family that had disappeared from the scene. There were contradictions in dates that bothered me, for I soon became aware of the possibility that I could have overlooked entirely a member of the family who had left the church and moved away with no further trace of him in the family records.

One of the major question marks that has bothered me is the existence of a George Rupp in the 1840 census of German Township. The striking feature of the record is that George Rupp was a neighbor of Christian Rupp and Nicholas King and lived in the heart of the Mennonite settlement. He was between 20 and 30 years of age and his wife was between 15 and 20. He is not listed in the 1850 census of German Township - but strange to say, there is a George Roup, age 34, and his wife, Catherine, age 34, who lived just a few miles west in Brady Township, Williams County. They had four children; the eldest, age 12, was born in New York and the next three, ages 10, 4 and 1, were born in Ohio. You can see that these records do not tally as to (1) spelling of name, (2) age of wife, and (3) age of eldest child. But then I ask,

"What happened to the George Rupp who was a neighbor of Christian Rupp in 1840?" It is also unusual because George is not a Biblical name and the name was not used by early Amish-Mennonite families.

There were a number of Roop names in the area, including a John Roop in Amboy Township in 1840. But these people do not appear to have any connection with the early German settlement.

I am also bothered by the fact that in tracing the 46 grandchildren of Johannes, I cannot find very many of them on the ship lists. I know that two died in infancy, and that Elizabeth Freyenberger (I-B) is buried in Alsace, and that we lost the record on Catarina, born in 1803. I hope a later researcher will establish the date when the different members of the family reached America.

In that connection, there is a statement by Grieser in his book that says that the boat that brought Christian Rupp to New York in 1834 was passed enroute by another boat bearing their relatives. I have never located that "other boat" that passed them in mid-ocean.

In my early notes I found a copy of a letter written by Rev. N. Gehr to the Archbold Herald (predecessor of the Buckeye) on August 8, 1895. This letter adds some added highlights to the story of the first settlement at Lauber Hill. Gehr says that the original search party set out from Wayne County and traveled four weeks on foot before they found the site they wanted. Then they returned to Wayne County and secured an ox team. The Kuebler, Meister, Lauber, Gundy families and widow Wenger and three daughters then made the trip to Lauber Hill, making about ten miles a day and meeting a few straggling Indians.

When they got to Lauber Hill, Lauber and Meister put their initials on trees. They slept in the wagon (How did all of them get in one wagon?). Gehr says that it was fortunate that Sam Burkholder and Nicholas King accompanied them from Wayne County, for they knew how to build a log house. In addition their good friend , the trapper, Joseph Bates, sent two of his hired men to help them raise the first cabin. I have heard that it took about one week to build the first cabin. The second cabin went to Kuebler, and the widow Wenger got the third cabin. Their first purchase of staples came from a trip to the village of Maumee, forty miles east.

Their food, according to Gehr, consisted of bread, coffee, tea, pickled pork, and "the inevitable whiskey". The latter surprised me for I did not know that whiskey was made by the German farmers. A man named Hartzel came out from Wayne County to look for land but returned when he saw that a number of the first settlers were ill with the "fever".

Gehr's letter did bring out an item of interest to me, and that was the original purchase price of the land from the government was at the rate of \$1.25 an acre.

I learned that in the 19th century, Henry Frick made his fortune by hiring immigrants for as low as 8¢ an hour for a 70-hour week. I found no evidence that any of our ancestors hired out as laborers in New York. They were farm boys and they headed for new land in Ohio.

C. Henry Smith, the Bluffton College historian, in his book published in 1909 titled "The Mennonites of America", calls attention to the fine agricultural land owned by the Mennonites

all across the United States. Smith quotes Mosheim, an earlier historian, who in describing the Mennonites of Holland says that "they owned the finest land, drove the finest equipages, lived in the best houses, and were in every way the most industrious people in Holland." There are reasons for believing that the Mennonites in Holland may have assisted the Mennonites in Baden and Alsace in getting to America.

It is obvious to my friends that, although my personal religious beliefs vary widely with Mennonite doctrine, that I am a great admirer of this early group of Mennonites who were our forebears.

I have indicated that I want any records I have, including a collection of Mennonite histories, to go to either Bluffton or Goshen College.

But I hope very much that these family trees can be displayed in the Archbold area. The Sauder Museum would be an ideal place. Erie Sauder is interested in this possibility if a suitable area can be found. In recent months I have checked with genealogists in an effort to find the largest family tree in America. I could not get a definite answer, but I have been led to believe that the Johannes Rupp tree could well be the largest family tree in America. That will be true if each branch does their part in bringing their particular branch up to date. We have an unusual advantage in gathering this information in that many of the descendants of Johannes Rupp remain rooted in certain communities for many years. This is in decided contrast to the national picture. A 1974 newspaper feature reported that 31.8%

of the people of the United States changed their place of residence in the 3-year period ending March 1, 1973. They reported that in that same three-year period, 58% of the young people in their twenties, changed their place of residence.

We do have the chance to bring the record up to date before the family is too widely scattered. This is a challenge. It might offer statistics that no computer could collect. And tracking down your relatives can be fun. You too will learn to love and respect all of them.

There are facets of family life that keep cropping up when I review past visits to Mennonite homes when I was a boy. My children and grandchildren have never encountered such experiences. I can only attempt to relay to them the lasting impressions of such events as the evening prayer service, the preparation of food for a family gathering, the recognition given to the elders in the family and so on. A particularly pleasant recollection is that of the singing that followed the family meal. At the close of the dinner, the plates would be taken away, the chairs pushed away from the table, and one of the members would start a song. All would join. Others might start a song. It all seemed spontaneous. One of my favorites was a German song that sounded like Lobedien. I don't know the words, but I can still hum that song today. You couldn't sing that song without feeling at peace with the world.

I have looked at so many thousands of court records and checked countless tombstones, to the point where it seems that sheer numbers would destroy the importance of one individual -

and yet this record is no more than the total of many individuals. They all meant much to their families and friends in their time. Each was important in the part he played in the growth of a family, the development of a community, and in the betterment of mankind. God bless every one of them!

A P P E N D I X

Chart #1 - Johannes Rupp

Chart #2 - John Rupp - Branch I

Chart #3 - Barbara Rupp - Branch II

Chart #4 - Christian Rupp - Branch III

Chart #5 - Jacob Rupp - Branch IV

Chart #6 - Magdalena Rupp - Branch V

Chart #7 - Peter Rupp - Branch VI

<u>Wife's name not known</u>	<u>John</u>	I
Died between 1840-1850 in Fulton County, Ohio (Both)	Born circa 1781	

<u>Married Joseph Roth</u>	<u>Barbara</u>	II
Both are buried in Alsace	Born 1783	

<u>Married Christina Stuckey</u>	<u>Christian</u>	III
Both buried in Fulton County, Ohio	Born circa 1790 Died 1879	
No records found --- <u>Michael</u> ---		

<u>Married Magdalena King</u>	<u>Jacob</u>	IV
Buried in Fulton County, Ohio (Both)	Born circa 1801	

<u>Married John King (Born 1799)</u>	<u>Magdalena</u>	V
Both are buried in Fulton County, Ohio	Born 1803	

<u>Married Barbara Goldsmith</u>	<u>Peter</u>	VI
Both are buried in Fulton County, Ohio	Born 6-11-1805	

Barbara - Born 1811, Switzerland
Died 6-1-1883, Fulton County,
Ohio

CHART I

Johannes Rupp Born - circa 1755-59 in Switzerland
or in Baden, Germany

Married Magdalena Wagler 1779-80

CHART II

The Number I Branch of John Rupp

John Rupp

Born circa 1781 Probably Orschweiler, Baden, Germany
Died circa 1840-1850 - Fulton County, Ohio
Name of wife not known but she is buried in Fulton County, Ohio

Catherina

Born 1-14-1803
Mother was Catherina Würrslein

I-X

John

Born 1-10-1812 Baden
Died 2-15-1877 Fulton County, Ohio
Married Magdalena Lauber
Born 2-21-1824 Alsace
Died 11-23-1874 Fulton County, Ohio

I-A

Elizabeth

Born circa 1814 Baden
Died circa 1850 Alsace
Married John Freyenberger
Born 1807 Alsace
Died Fulton County, Ohio

I-B

Michael

Born circa 1815 Baden
Died
Married Mary Gassman
Born 2-3-1834 Hancock County, Ohio
Died 1924

I-C

Magdalena

Born circa 1816 Baden
Married Jacob Schad - No descendants

I-X

Anna

Born 4-4-1818 Baden
Died 12-1-1887
Married Christian Benneman
Born 9-19-1812
Died 2-8-1892

I-D

Joseph

Born 3-4-1819 Baden
Died 9-2-1886 Fulton County, Ohio
Married Sarah Schrock
Born 1-23-1817 Pennsylvania
Died 6-27-1894 Fulton County, Ohio

I-E

Christian

Born 3-1-1820 Baden
 Died 1-30-1875 Lucas County, Ohio
 Married Margaret Kaufman
 Born 8-28-1823
 Died 8-30-1905 Lucas County, Ohio

I-F

Nicholaus

Born 5-8-1823 Baden
 Died 5-10-1894 Lucas County, Ohio
 Married Susan Kraus
 Born 1835
 Died 1919

I-g

Jacobina

Born circa 1825 Baden
 Died 5- -1906 Wayne County, Ohio
 Married David D. Kimberlin
 Born circa 1820 Wayne County, Ohio
 Died circa 1850 On California Trail

I-H

Jacob

Born 3-15-1827 Baden
 Died 6-3-1889 Lucas County, Ohio
 Married Barbara Kuebler
 Born 1828
 Died 2-5-1896 Lucas County, Ohio

I-I

CHART III The II Branch of Joseph Roth and Barbara Rupp

Joseph Roth

B. 1770 Colrey-la-grande
D. circa 1830-1835 Alsace

Barbara Rupp B. circa 1871-Orschweiler, Baden
D. May 27, 1803-Records in Strasburg
D. circa, 1830-1835 - Alsace

II-X II-A II-B II-C II-D

Joseph

Born and died in infancy

Henry

Born 8-11-1807 Alsace

Died 1880 Fulton County, Ohio

Married Mary Aeschliman

Died 2-10-1870 Fulton County, Ohio

Jacob

Born 1811 Alsace

Died 2-22-1893 Fulton County, Ohio

Married Fannie Klopfenstein Born 1824

Married in Wayne County, Ohio 11-24-1842

Died 1-28-1875 Fulton County, Ohio

Christian

Born 11-18-1814 Alsace

Died 2-15-1902 Fulton County, Ohio

Married Anna Magdalena Burkholder

Born 1816 Alsace

Nicholas

Born 1820

Died

Married Margaret gripliver

Born 5-28-1821

Died 2-22-1871

(One record gives wife's name as Elizabeth,
born 1825)

CHART IV The III Branch of Christian Rupp and Christina Stuckey

Christian Rupp B. circa 1790-1791 - Orschweier D. 1879 Fulton County, Ohio
Christina Stuckey B. circa 1800 Alsace or Baden

Christian	III-A	Born May 1827 Died 1906 Fulton County, Ohio
		Married Magdalena Roth Born 1826 Died 1900
Christina	III-B	Born 1829 Died
		Married Jacob King Born 1826 Ohio Died 6-25-1887
Anna	III-C	Born 9-21-1828 Died 5-10-1924 Fulton County, Ohio
		Married John Wyse-Born 12-11-1821 Bern, Switzerland Died 4-9-1884 Fulton County, Ohio
Magdalena	III-D	Born Circa 1833 Died Feb. 1916 Fulton County, Ohio
		Married Moses Burkholder
John	III-E	Born 10-12-1834 Died 1915
		Married Mary Sauder Born Died 1924 Both are buried in Eckley Cemetery in Fulton County as are some other brothers and sisters.
Barbara	III-F	Born 1841 Died 1921
		Married Joseph Steinman Born Died 1907
Elizabeth	III-X	Did not marry

CHART V The IV Branch of Jacob Rupp and Magdalena King

Jacob Rupp Born circa 1801-Orschweier, Baden, Germany Magdalena King Born circa 1805 Baden
Died 1875 Allen County, Ohio

Christian

Born 1827 Orschweier-Baden
Died 1900 Fulton County, Ohio
Married Elizabeth Freyenberger (This is the I-B-1 Line)
Born 1838 Alsace
Married 1855 Fulton County, Ohio
Died 1925 Fulton County, Ohio

Barbara

Born 12-18-1828 Baden
Died 6-11-1872
Married Peter Aeschliman
Born 2-6-1824 Alsace
Died 11-27-1890 Fulton County, Ohio

Fannie

Born 8-31-1832 Baden
Died 6-11-1872
Married Levi Lantz
Born 1832 Died 1928

Jacob, Jr.

Born 1-12-1834 Baden
Died 12-3-1886
Married Katherine Freyenberger (This is the I-B-3 Line)
Born 10-4-1844 Alsace
Died 11-6-1916 Fulton County, Ohio

Magdalena

Born 12-16-1835 Baden
Died 3-27-1903
Married Peter Gerig
Born 4-24-1842 Died 11-12-1918

Joseph

Born 6-14-1840 Ohio
Died 4-5-1911 Reno County, Kansas
Married Magdalena Gerig
Born 11-26-1848 Alsace
Married 5-22-1865
Died 6-24-1931 Sterling, Kansas

Maria

Born 1843

Elizabeth

Born 1846

CHART IV The V Branch of John King and Magdalena Rupp

John King (Koenig) Born 1799 - Germany Died Feb. 1864 - Fulton County, Ohio
 Magdalena Rupp Born circa 1803 Orschweier, Baden. Married circa 1825 Died 6-12-1898 Fulton County, Ohio

Christian

Born 4-6-1827 near Basel, Switzerland
 Died 5-29-1911 Fulton County, Ohio
 Married Salome Sauder
 Born Died 5-27-1854
 Married Mary Moser
 Born 2-5-1837 Mulhaus, Alsace
 Died 12-18-1917 Fulton County, Ohio

Elizabeth

Born Circa 1829
 Died Fulton County, Ohio
 Married Joseph Gerig
 Born
 Died Fulton County, Ohio

Anna

Born 10-30-1830
 Married 12-21-1854
 Died Buried in Eckley Cemetery,
 Fulton County, Ohio
 Married Daniel Grieser
 Born 1-22-1822
 Died Buried Eckley Cemetery

Daniel

Married Barbara Kraus

Barbara

Married Joseph Kraus

Joseph

Married Mary Brodbeck

CHART VII The VII Branch of Peter Rupp and Barbara Goldsmith

Peter Rupp Born 6-11-1805 Orschweier,
Baden, Germany,
Died 6-16-1869 Fulton County, Ohio

Barbara Goldsmith
Born Died
Fulton County, Ohio

VI-A

VI-B

VI-C

VI-D

VI-E

VI-X

VI-F

VI-X

Barbara

Born Died
Married Christian Nofsinger
Born 1-19-1839 Alsace
Died

Jacob F.

Born 11-4-1840 Died 12-20-1928
Married Fanny Frey
Mary Short
Eliza Roth

Christian C.

Born 2-2-1842 Ohio
Died 10-20-1913 Fulton County, Ohio
Married Barbara Wyse
Born Married 5-3-1864
Died 10-15-1915

Peter J.

Born 11-29-1843
Died 1-15-1921 Larned, Kansas
Married Elizabeth King
Born Married 1867
Died 8-25-1921 Larned, Kansas

Benjamin

Born circa 1845 Died
Married Elizabeth Siegel
Born Died
Married 12-19-1872 Fulton County, Ohio

Gideon

Married Eliza Roth - No descendants

Joel

Married Mary Roth (II-B-2 Line)
Married Stine

Daniel

Born 4-8-1855 Fulton County, Ohio
Died 7-23-1947 Falfurias, Texas
Did not marry

Eight Generations of Rupps

Johannes Rupp
B. Circa 1755-59
M. Magdalena Wagler
D.
Lived in Orschweier,
Baden, Germany

John Rupp I
B. Circa 1781
Orschweier, Germany
D. Circa 1841-50
Fulton Co., Ohio

John Rupp I-A
B. 1-10-1812
Orschweier, Germany
D. 2-15-1877
Fulton Co., Ohio

Rev. Daniel Rupp I-A-2
B. 3-4-1842
Fulton Co., Ohio
D. 5-11-1921
Fulton Co., Ohio

There are no pictures of the first three generations listed above.

Snapshot at right is of
Daniel Rupp and his second
wife, Magdalena Gerber.
It was taken at Archbold,
Ohio in 1919.



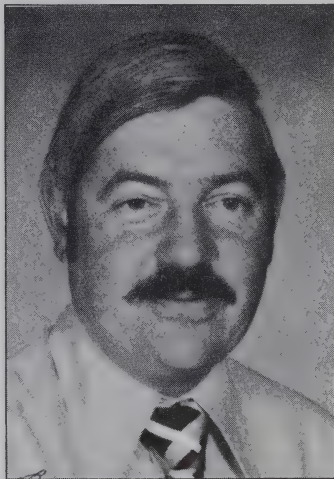
Turn page for the next four generations.

Eight Generations Continued--The Second Four

Jesse Rupp
I-A-2-3
B. 1-22-1874
Archbold, Ohio
D. 2-24-1936
Wauseon, Ohio



Allen E. Rupp
I-A-2-3-1
B. 12-20-1901
Archbold, Ohio



First president of the Rupp Reunion.

Allen M. Rupp
I-A-2-3-1-1
B. 11-19-1934
Marietta, Ohio



Scott Allen Rupp
I-A-2-3-1-1-1
B. 5-17-1959



Portraits Revised

The children of Rev. Daniel Rupp, B . 3-4-1842 - D. 5-11-1921

Picture taken at Archbold, Ohio, about 1898

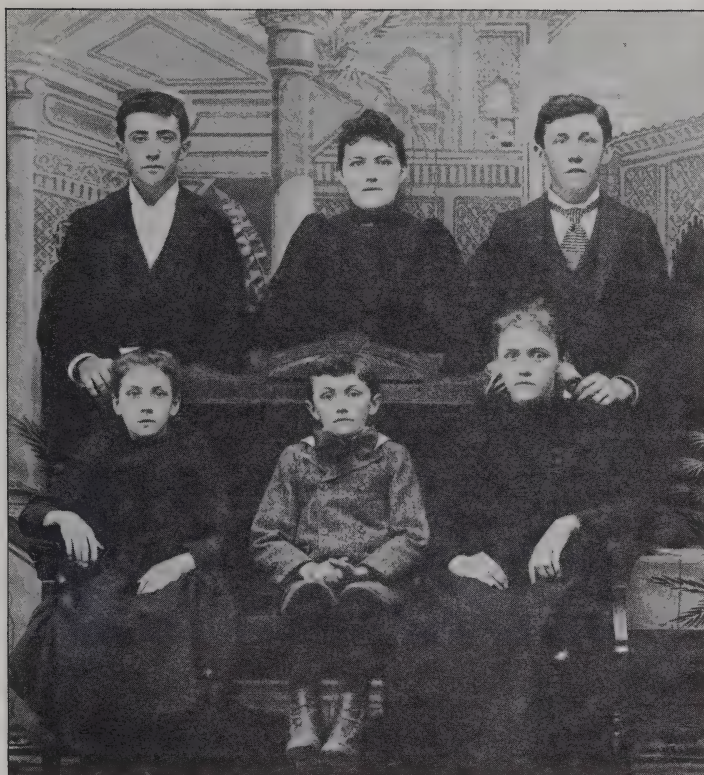
The I-A-2 line



From left to right: Daniel, Peter*, Jesse, Ella, Marianne,
Aaron, Priscilla*, Edward, Albert, Elmer*, and Lydia

*These three were living in Archbold, Ohio, in 1976

This family with their descendants and their spouses numbered 230 in 1976. Yet it is one of the smaller of the I-A offshoots. The I-A-5 branch of Henry Rupp and Catherine Beck would probably total over 900 names today.



Shown above are the six younger children of Jacob Rupp, Jr. (1834-1886) and Katherine Freyenberger (1844-1916). This represents two lines of Johannes Rupp as Jacob is IV-D line and Katherine is I-B-3 line. They were first cousins once removed.

Twelve children were born to this family and ten lived to adulthood. It is one illustrious family with descendents in all parts of the United States. This picture was taken in 1890 and shows the six youngest children. Standing, left to right, Joel Rupp who married Anna Rice; Magdalena Rupp who married W.O. Taylor; and Emanuel Rupp who married Funkhauser.

Seated left to right, Mary who married Rev. P.L. Eicher; Ezra who married Ada Meister; and Hannah Rupp who married Monroe Lantz.

